

Honoring the Covenant of Marriage

God's View on Our Vows/Covenants

Genesis 2:18-25; Matthew 19:4-6

God is serious about covenants!

Ecclesiastes 5:2, 4-6 “Do not be **hasty** in word or **impulsive** in thought to bring up a matter in the presence of God. For God is in heaven and you are on the earth; therefore let your words be **few**. . . . **When you make a vow to God, do not be late in paying it; for He takes no delight in fools. Pay what you vow! It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay.** Do not let your speech cause you to sin and do not say in the presence of the messenger of God that it was a mistake. *Why should God be angry on account of your voice and destroy the work of your hands?”*

God's Design for Marriage

Genesis 2:18-25; Matthew 19:4-6

Marriage by definition is:

1. A holy covenant
2. Initiated by God
3. Conditioned on an irrevocable promise
4. Oneness with an imperfect person of the opposite sex
5. For a lifetime
6. To glorify God

God's Word on Marriage

Romans 12:10 "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give **preference** to one another in honor."

1 Peter 3:7 "You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman, and show her **honor** as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered."

Ephesians 5:33 "The wife must see to it that she **respects** her husband."

God's Desire for Marriage

Hebrews 13:4 "Marriage is to be held in **honor** among all, and the marriage bed is to be **undefiled**; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge."

Honor (Greek): precious, valuable, honorable

Undefiled (Greek): unsoiled, uncontaminated, pure

God's Word on a Defiled Marriage

Colossians 3:8

Anger: a deep, smoldering bitterness; the settled heart attitude of an angry person

Wrath: a sudden outburst of sinful anger, usually the eruption that flows out of anger

Malice: the Greek term denotes general moral evil and refers primarily to evil speech which damages

Slander: to mock, scold, complain angrily, ridicule, or speak evil of

Filthy language: abusive, abrasive, shameful, and lying speech

Galatians 5:19-21

Sexual immorality: fornication; the Greek word is *porneia*, from which the English word "pornography" comes; refers to all illicit sexual activity, including (but not limited to) adultery, premarital sex, homosexuality, bestiality, incest, and prostitution

Lewdness: excessive behavior or lack of restraint associated with sexual excess and indulgence

Sorcery: the Greek word is *pharmakeia*, from which the English word "pharmacy" comes; originally referred to medicines in general, but eventually only to mood- and mind-altering drugs

God's Word on Honoring Marriage

Colossians 3:12-13

Tender: may also be rendered "heart of compassion"

Kindness: benevolence in action—"speaking their love language"

Humility: admitting when wrong

Meekness: a willingness to suffer insult or injury rather than to inflict such hurts

Longsuffering/Patience: opposite of quick anger, resentment, or revenge

Food for Thought

If I can't show **honor** to my spouse in our marriage, how can I show **honor** to God in my life?

Where you place your **attention** is where you place your **affection!**