From the Beginning: A Study of Marriage

Ken Chapman · Matthew 19:1–6

INTRODUCTION

- But wouldn't it be better yet to talk about how to make our marriages as God intended them to be so that we never have to deal with those issues?
- A study of marriage that's prompted by the words of Jesus in Matthew chapter 19.

1 Have You Not Read? Back to the Beginning

Matthew 19:1–6; Genesis 2

- It is in this territory, the territory of Herod Antipas, that Jesus is asked the question about divorce.
- There was probably no worse place on earth to be asked that question. But Jesus didn't let fear decide the issue.
- Have you not read? Another way of saying that is, what does the Bible say? Another way of saying that is, what does God say?
- He who made them made them male and female, and for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.
- He goes back to the beginning and says, this applies to everybody. Everybody who's ever been born, anybody who would ever be married, this law is universal.

2 The Order of Creation

Genesis 2:18–20

- And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone. I will make a helper comparable to him.
- I think there's something very significant in the order of creation, the order of events.
- God saw that which was lacking in verse 18. And now he sets about to let Adam see what's lacking.
- None of them are really comparable to me. None of them are my equal. None of them are my social, intellectual, or sexual companion.

3 The Method of Creation

Genesis 2:21–23; Ephesians 5:28–29

- I think we can also see the beauty and the significance of the method of creation.
- And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. She shall be called woman because she was taken out of man.
- In this method of creation, God took one and made two. To show us that in marriage, God takes two and makes one.
- So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself, for no one has hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it.

- Husbands love their wives as their own bodies because she is flesh of your flesh and bones of your bones.
- I see a danger in just having a roommate that you share the bills with. That there needs to be some oneness there.

4 The Result of Creation

Genesis 2:18

- But I think we also see some wisdom in the result of creation.
- God teaches us through his word, but God also teaches us through his actions.
- Did he make several women? If he would have, that action alone would have sanctioned polygamy.
- Who's comparable to you and who's answerable to your needs? He made one woman.
- But it all starts with the actions of God.

5 Observations: Marriage, Social Order, and One Flesh

- Number one is marriage is the fundamental principle of social order.
- Many of our ills in this country are because marriage and the family have broken down.
- Marriage is superior to parental relationships.
- By marriage, husband and wife become one flesh. Not just in a sexual union, but in every sense of the word, husbands and wives must become one.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Wouldn't it be better now to have some maintenance and to work on our marriages to make us one?**

MY NOTES