Let Not Man Separate

JR Bronger · Matthew 19:4–6

INTRODUCTION

- I come to realize at a very early age that this idea of a holy matrimony that really at one time was the foundational structure of every civilization was quickly eroding.
- Why can't we avoid the divorces? Why can't we live in such a way that we're going to respect what the Bible says about marriage?
- Most marriages that end in divorce, even among believers, is not for the cause of fornication, it's for other causes.

1 Respect Your Marriage as a Covenant

Malachi 2:14; Genesis 15; Ecclesiastes 5:4–5

- Marriage is not merely a cultural tradition of a particular society or genre. Marriage was in the mind of God.
- Marriage was instituted and it was established by God for all time.
- A contract can be broken by mutual consent. A covenant cannot.
- When you make a vow to God, do not delay to pay it. For he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed better not to vow than to vow and not pay.
- You don't have the liberty to throw the divorce word on the table. You formed a covenant.
- We've got to work out our differences and the problems that we may experience in our marriage relationship.

2 Nurture the Companionship

Malachi 2:14; Genesis 2:18

- Malachi 2 and verse 14 speaks of one's wife as his companion.
- Genesis 2 of verse 18, God said, It is not good for a man to be alone.
- God created a woman and brought her to the man. And that became a companionship.
- We become one in thought. We become one in intent. We become one in desire.
- I tell people your spouse should be not only your lover, but your best friend.
- If you make your life revolving around your children, you're neglecting your companion.

3 Maintaining Good Communication

Amos 3:3; Ephesians 4:22–29

- A foundational fact of any relationship is communication.
- Can two walk together unless they are agreed.
- Communication is not monologue, it's dialogue. It is a two way street, it goes both ways.

- Therefore, putting away lying, let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor. For we are members of one another.
- Don't blow up, don't clam up, just open up and don't go to bed angry.
- It's okay to point fingers in an argument, but not at each other.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Learn how to communicate. Keep your marriage together. Respect the covenant. Nurture the companionship. Learn the art of communication.**

MY NOTES