

# IT IS NOT GOOD THAT MAN SHOULD BE ALONE

GENESIS 2:18-25

Text: Genesis 2:18

## **Genesis 2:18**

*<sup>18</sup> And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.*

Introduction:

We have all heard the expression "a marriage made in Heaven." But, does such a thing exist? Is there such a thing as a perfect marriage? Probably not! However, there was, at one time, a marriage that was made in paradise. In the text we have just read, we are given the details of the very first wedding.

When this took place, there was no sin in the world and everything was perfect.

Then the fall came and sin entered the world. With sin came all the problems and wretchedness of the curse. With these problems, came trouble at home.

In 1960, there were 393,000 divorces. Now, there are over 1.2 million per year, and the rate is rising! Now,

there is one divorce for every 1.8 marriages. Over one million children in America will be involved in a divorce case.

This evening I want to begin looking at what has become an issue within the church the issue of Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage.

Note:

## **1. GOD'S INTENTION (VS. 18)**

### ***Genesis 2:18***

<sup>18</sup> *And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.*

#### A. The Lord's Concern

The Garden of Eden was a beautiful place full of wonder.

It was a perfect place where God and Man and the animal kingdom enjoyed perfect peace and harmony.

It was a good place.

Man had no counterpart. The word "alone" carries the idea of "being cut of, of being a piece which is isolated from the whole."

Now let me say it is not always God's will for everyone to be married.

There are times and circumstances when God has determined that He can better use someone when they are unattached and single.

**1 Corinthians 7:32-33**

<sup>32</sup> *But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord:* <sup>33</sup> *But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife.*

Therefore, instead of being upset with the Lord and doing everything in your power to attract a mate, perhaps the correct response would be to realize that the Lord might have a better plan for your life.

**B. The Lord's Conclusion**

When God surveyed the situation, His decision was to produce a "help" for Adam.

God gave Adam someone who will fill up that which is lacking in his own life. One who makes him completed him.

God's intention in making woman was to compliment and complete the man. By the way, it still works that way today.

Not only do we see God's Intention but also:

## **2. GOD'S INTERVENTION (VS. 19-22)**

### **Genesis 2:19-22**

*<sup>19</sup> And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. <sup>20</sup> And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. <sup>21</sup> And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; <sup>22</sup> And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.*

Note:

#### **A. A Desire Shaped By God (vs. 19-20)**

In these verses, God has the entirety of the animal kingdom pass before Adam. He tells Adam to look at them and to give them names and whatever Adam

called them, that was the name. Now, God's intention here is far deeper than a mere intellectual exercise. He isn't trying to get Adam to think. The real goal here is awaken a desire in Adam for companionship.

As Adam saw all these animals pass before him. Surely he must have noticed that every one of them had a mate. It must have dawned on Adam that he was the only creature who seemed to be alone.

That desire that awakens in us that causes us to begin to look on the members of the opposite sex with interest is natural and God given. There is in the heart of mankind a deep seated desire for companionship.

There comes a time in every normal, well-adjusted life when a person begins to feel a yearning to "settle down" with someone they love. It is a normal part of life.

## B. A Desire Satisfied By God

The Lord never awakens a desire that He isn't prepared to fulfill in His own way and in His own time. Our problem is that we have these desires in us and we set about satisfying them on our own, and in our own time. When we do, we most of the time make a mess out of things.

When this desire came to the surface in Adam's life, God set about meeting that need. There were three things involved in providing this help meet for Adam.

- It Involved Sleep

When it came time for God to make a helpmeet for Adam, He caused Adam to go to sleep while He did His work. In other words, Adam was totally uninvolved in the selection process. It, like nearly everything else in life, fell to the choice of God.

There is a lesson here for those of you who are looking for that future spouse. The best thing you can do is just let that area of your life go to sleep and trust the Lord to bring that person into your life in His time and in His way. But, that isn't what we are told to do.

We are told that one must be pro-active, that one must make things happen. You got to go out there and grab hold of the one you choose and use any means in your arsenal to see that they do not go to someone else.

What a lack of faith!

If God can be trusted to save your soul from Hell, do you not think that He can also be trusted to bring you the mate He wants you to have?

Remember we are to live by faith.

## ***Habakkuk 2:4***

*<sup>4</sup> Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.*

- It Involved Surgery

While Adam was asleep, God performed surgery on Adam, opened him up and took out a rib. It was from this rib that God made the woman.

Surgery always involves pain. Often, finding a mate involves pain and even after a mate has been secured and vows have been exchanged, there are still painful times. However, we must learn to trust the Lord during the difficult times and to remember our commitment made to our spouse. We must fight for our marriages.

Someone once said “The only thing that I have ever seen will make a marriage last is the couple wants to be married to each more that they want to divorce.”

- It Involved Symbolism

Notice where the woman came from

In taking her from the side of man, God was painting a picture that speaks volumes about what the marriage relationship should be.

Quote:

Matthew Henry put it this way, "Eve was made by God not out of Adam's head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, from under his arm to be protected and from near his heart to be loved."

Not only do we see God's Intention and God's Intervention but also:

### **3. GOD'S INVENTION (VS. 23-25)**

#### ***Genesis 2:23-25***

*<sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. <sup>25</sup> And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

When I speak of the Lord's invention, I am not talking about woman, but rather the institution of marriage.

These verses constitute what was the first marriage ceremony. There are three aspects that were involved in that first marriage ceremony that will go along way in helping our relationships this evening.



## A. Marriage Involves a Response (vs. 23)

### **Genesis 2:23**

<sup>23</sup> *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.*

When Adam awakened out of sleep, the first thing he saw was this brand new, absolutely beautiful, absolutely perfect woman there with him.

Here was one who was compatible with him, one with whom he could carry out the Lord's directive, of Gen. 1:28.

### **Genesis 1:28**

<sup>28</sup> *And God blessed them, and God said unto them, **Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it:** and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.*

Marriage is not something to be entered into lightly.

It should be prayed about and strictly observed according to the Lord's commandments.

If His Word is ignored, there can be nothing but trouble in the marriage relationship! It involves a response and that response is to say yes to that person that God has picked and prepared just for you.

## B. Marriage Involves a Responsibility (vs. 24)

### **Genesis 2:24**

<sup>24</sup> *Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.*

Adam goes on to say that a man is to "leave" his parents and "cleave" to his wife. This is a two-step process that many couples would do well to consider.

- Leave

To leave means to place every other relationship at a lower priority than the marriage relationship excluding, of course, one's relationship with God.

Your husband or wife is to be more than just a spouse.

Leaving means that every activity outside of the marriage relationship must take a backseat.

This includes things like businesses, hobbies, friends, careers, sports, even at times church work.

Outside of one's relationship with God, there is no other relationship as important as the one you have with your spouse!

- Cleave

To cleave means to "adhere to, to stick to, to be bound together by some strong bond." Cleaving isn't an instant thing.

Rather, it is a lifelong pursuit. It begins at the marriage altar and continues to the deathbed. It speaks of total and absolute commitment.

This is a word that is lacking in our modern society, especially when it comes to arena of marriage.

The modern mind set says, "Well, we'll try it for a while and if it doesn't work, then I'll just find me a new one."

That is a far cry from what God intended in the beginning!

"Cleaving" is not a passive endeavor.

In other words, it doesn't just happen, it comes about as the result of effort.

The New Testament word for cleave means, "to stick like glue, to be welded together so that the two cannot be separated without serious damage to both."

If we really believe that 2 become 1 flesh when they are married, then we would also believe that anything that tore that apart was a serious matter.

Every married couple in this room needs to realize that they have been made one. You are not really a couple, you are a single unit, declared by God in Heaven to be joined together until death rips you apart.

If we really lived with this assurance, it would transform our homes, our churches and our nation! Then, divorce would not be an option, but just like we would spare no expense or effort to save a member of our own body, we would do everything in our power to safeguard our marriages.

Close:

If you were honest this evening and you were to take your marriage and lay it alongside this passage, would your marriage stand as one that was made in paradise? Or, would you have to say that there is some "leaving and cleaving" that needs to take place in our relationship? Is there some activity or pursuit that is coming between you and your spouse?

Maybe you are married to an unbeliever; why not talk to the Lord this evening about that need.

Maybe you're not married, but you are concerned about the future and the person you will marry, why not bring that need to the Lord.