

What the Bible Says about Marriage

Key Texts:

- Genesis 1:27
- Genesis 2:18-24
- Proverbs 18:22
- Malachi 2:14 (Prov. 2:17)
- Matthew 19:6
- Ephesians 5:22-33 (Col. 3:18-19)

A Biblical Understanding of God's Good Design for Marriage

GCOT Statement of Faith:

He ordained the sacred institution of marriage, which is and can only be a union of one man and one woman. Marriage is designed by God to display the union between Christ and His church, to provide intimate companionship, and to provide the appropriate context for procreation.

Grace Church Distinctive on Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage:

"...we seek to be a marriage keeping church which upholds the divine standard for marriage."

God's Design for Marriage

God, the creator of the universe, ordained the institution of marriage from the beginning of the world (Gen. 2:18, 2:24). Marriage is the formation of a new union and new priorities which involve a man and woman leaving mother and father to be united to one another in a lifelong, monogamous relationship. It is a covenant relationship which should not be broken (Mal.2:14). The New Testament also tells us that marriage is extremely important because it was designed by God to be a picture of Christ's relationship to the church (Eph. 3:31-32). Thus, in Matthew 19:6, Jesus states, "So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."