

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Eddy Dickinson

Opening Prayer: Joshua Berryhill

On the Table: Head - Ralph Burleson
Servers - Bradley Box
David Key
Greg Lowery

Closing Prayer: Al Corkren

Preparing the Lord's Supper Katie Berryhill

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Leonard Key / David Key
Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson

Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Minister: Greg Lowery

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The Bride "The Lamb's Wife"



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



What Is Marriage?

By Roy H. Lanier

I. Marriage Defined

The latest dictionary defines marriage as “the social institution under which a man and a woman establish their decision to live as husband and wife by legal commitments, religious ceremonies, etc.“. From a general knowledge of scriptures we may say that marriage is an institution from God to man for the birth, preservation, and comfort of children and the perpetuation of the human race; for the comfort and pleasure of the husband and wife; for the cultivation of moral purity and refinement which are so necessary in a society where Christianity flourishes; and a union which God forms intended to last until death parts them. Originally marriage was intended to be the union of one man and one woman for life. The prophet argues this point by saying God made only one woman for Adam, when he could have made more, for “he had the residue of the Spirit. And wherefore one? He sought a godly seed” (Malachi 2:15). But the “hardness of heart” of man has caused God to allow exceptions to the original plan.

II. Elements of Marriage

A. Love and submission. Paul says that husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the church (Eph. 5:25). Perhaps in days when parents mated their children and formed the marriage union at an early age (12 to 15 years) there was little or no love at first, but in our age when people choose their partners in marriage love is a necessary element. Again Paul said husbands are to love their wives as they love their own bodies (Eph. 5:28). And he says wives are to be in subjection to their husbands (Eph. 5:22). And Peter teaches the same (1st Pet. 3:1).

B. Intention to live together. This union is to be formed in harmony with God’s law which governs the union. Jesus recalled the creation and the institution of marriage when it was said, “And the two shall become one flesh” and he added, “So that they are no more two, but one flesh” (Matt. 19:5, 6). To marry for social or financial gain, or with a view to physical enjoyment for a few years, is no marriage in God’s sight. The union is to be taken seriously and with a view to the accomplishment of God’s purposes when he instituted marriage.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Patty Berryhill: having problems with a hernia, please pray that the doctors can help her with this problem

Billy Lee & Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Brother & Sister} both are in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray for them they both have some health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

Don Lawrence: dealing with some health issues, please continue to keep him your prayers

Buddy Frazier: undergoing cancer treatments, please keep him in your prayers

Hunter Coal Corkren: treating his kidney problem with medicine, please be praying that this problem clears up with this treatment

Felicia Berryhill: she is having some ongoing health problems, please pray that she will be able to receive the right medical treatment to help her

Angie Ganey Gardner: breast cancer surgery went well and is waiting learn the next course of treatment, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

David Warren: has been diagnosed with cancer, please pray that it will be treatable

Bobby Sanderson: continues to improve, please pray he has no further problems

Gunner Pendley: recovering from severe brain injury and is in Shepherd’s in Atlanta, please keep him and family in your prayers

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Wyatt Spann: is currently fighting a brain tumor, please pray that with medical help he can win this fight

Pam Davis (Adrian’s daughter) has been diagnosed with cancer, please be praying that it can be defeated with treatment

Indee Kois {student at BHS}: she is still dealing with some health issues , please pray that the doctors will be able to help her

Frank Farris: is recovering from a stroke, please keep him in your prayers

Kye Jackson: (Lindsey’s son) diagnosed with arthritis he is 2 years old, pray that he will receive successful treatment for this arthritis

Jeff Upton (Donna Martian’s Co-worker): weakness in his legs, please pray that this will improve

Judy Shirley: had part of her lung removed because of cancer and is waiting to hear from the doctors, please pray that she will receive good news

Mary Box: recovering from cracked ribs and some other health problems, please pray that she will get better

Winfred York: is home and is recovering from injuries obtained in an automobile accident, please keep him and Mrs. Vertie in your prayers

Ren Garrison (Donna Martian’s Nephew): will have an operation October 17th dealing with an issue concerning his heart, please be praying that surgery will be successful in dealing with this problem.

Tyler Upton: obtained severe injuries from a recent automobile accident and is showing signs of improvement, please keep him and his family in your prayers

C. Compliance with mores of society where the union is formed. In some ages of the world little formality was required or practiced, but I have not been able to find a society in any age or area of the world where absolutely no form of ceremony was required. Even in what are called “common-law” or “informal” marriages Colorado law requires “mutual agreement to be married, presentation to others generally as being married and cohabitation”. And those who have taken advantage of common-law marriage cannot separate and take other partners without being guilty of bigamy. They must go through courts to get a divorce before they can take other partners.

It is true that the law of Moses did not contain any requirements as to formal ceremonies for marriage, but it is not true that no ceremonies were observed by the Jews under that law. Histories and other documents of those times reveal elaborate agreements and ceremonies requiring seven and sometimes fourteen days to complete. One encyclopedia gives us a copy of the “ketubah” (sometimes “kethubah”) which is a “Hebrew word for the formal contract joining a man and a woman in Jewish marriage and including specific arrangements for securing her financial condition in the event he dies or divorces her”. And the rule was for the rabbi to read this “ketubah” aloud at the completion of the formal ceremony so the public would be witness to its terms. Since this was common practice among the Jews in the days of our Lord and his apostles, we may be sure that the word marriage in their minds included the idea of a public recognition of the union of a man and a woman.

This is shown to be true from what Jesus said to the Samaritan woman when she said she had no husband. Jesus said, “...thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband” (John 4: 18). She had met the requirements of society five times, but with the sixth man she had not met the requirements of society and Jesus said the man she was living with was not her husband.

This not only teaches us that we must comply with the mores of society where we live, but it teaches us that mere cohabitation does not mean marriage. We have some among us who teach that sexual union alone joins male and female in marriage. If that were true Jesus erred when he said the man the Samaritan woman was living with was not her husband. And if that were true Joseph and Mary were living in very intimate relations before they were married. They were betrothed before Mary was found to be with child, but bethrothal did not give the privilege of living together. The angel told Joseph to take Mary as his wife, which he did, but “knew her not” (had no sexual union with her) until after the birth of Jesus (Matt. 1:25). So here we have a marriage

taking place, and a man and a woman living together, for some months before sexual union. Sexual intercourse is the privilege of married partners, which one partner must not deny the other (1st Cor. 7:3-5); it is not the act which joins a man and a woman in marriage. This erroneous idea comes from a misunderstanding of Paul’s teaching in First Corinthians 6:16, 17. Paul does not teach that the Christian man who commits fornication with a harlot is one body, in the sense of being married to the harlot, but rather that he has brought his body which is a member of Christ and the temple of the Holy Spirit into a union with the harlot’s body which desecrates his body and makes it unfit to be used by Christ and unfit as a dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. The body of the woman of Samaria was “one body” with the man with whom she was living, yet Jesus said he was not her husband. So being “one body” with a harlot does not constitute marriage with that harlot. It is unthinkable that such an unholy act as fornication can form such a holy union as marriage, or that God would join two in holy marriage who had no love for each other and had no intention of forming a union which would fulfill the purposes of God, but rather would only fulfill their unholy lust for gratification of unholy desires.

The Spiritual Sword, vol. 3, no. 3, April 1972, p. 2-3.

Why Do We Attend Worship?

By Derek Broome

Why do we attend worship? First and foremost, our worship is to Almighty God. He is our Creator, Sustainer and Savior. As the church, we must direct our worship to Him, for He alone is worthy of praise. The church is not a place we go, but instead it is a family to which we belong. It is who we are.

In John 4:24 it says, “God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” So, as the church, we are to worship God in the ways that He authorized rather than in the ways of man (Matthew 15:9). We are to worship Him in the right frame of mind and for the right reasons. We do not just gather together to worship just because we are supposed to worship, but instead, we come together because we love the Lord. It is out of that love that we are to offer true and sincere worship so that our worship is never in vain (John 4:23). Our hearts and our minds are to be prepared to worship, and we should always examine ourselves before we worship the Lord our God (1 Corinthians 11:27-32). However, why else do we gather together to worship?

While it is true that our worship is primarily to God, our worship is also very beneficial to one another. In Hebrews 10:24-25 we see the necessity for us to come together to worship as well as the encouragement that can be offered to one another in the assembly. We gather together to worship God and so that we can edify and encourage one another. As we sing, pray, teach, give and gather around the Lord’s Table, we collectively offer a sweet-smelling aroma to the Lord. In addition, we also offer a bond of unity and a supportive atmosphere to those around us.

I cannot say that I have always worshipped in the right frame of mind, nor can I say that I have always given my best. Yet, as I have grown in my faith, I have grown to love, want and need to be in worship. One of the most frustrating things to hear somebody say after a worship service is that they got nothing out of it. So many people in our world want to be entertained by worship and never want to offer anything up of themselves. The truth about worship is that one gets out of it what he puts into it. Maybe we should stop for a second and ask ourselves, “What would our worship be like if everybody worshipped just like me?” I know for myself there are many areas I need to improve. How great would our worship to God be if we all came prepared and focused, ready to give God sincere worship? How much more encouragement could be had? Let us daily strive to live for God, and let us all prepare to worship Him.

Obtained at: www.gospelgazette.com

Upcoming Events

Today	Fellowship Meal	
Today	Bible Bowl {Fayette}	2:00 pm
Tonight	3 rd Sunday Night Singing	5:00 pm
September 22 nd	Tri-County Singing {Tidwell Chapel}	2:00 pm