

GOD AND MARRITAL ORDER



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GOD AND THE MARITAL ORDER

From creation, and according to God's will, a functional order was established between man and woman, and this order gave rise to the norms governing marriage as defined and circumscribed today in the Word of God, the Bible. This approach is primarily spiritual before it is normative in everyday life and is a matter of faith. Every person who believes in Jesus Christ as Lord is called to pay special attention to it, in all humility, as a disciple.

Gen 2:18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to live alone. I will make a suitable companion to help him." Gen 2:19 So he took some soil from the ground and formed all the animals and all the birds. Then he brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and that is how they all got their names. Gen 2:20 So the man named all the birds and all the animals; but not one of them was a suitable companion to help him. Gen 2:21 Then the LORD God made the man fall into a deep sleep, and while he was sleeping, he took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the flesh. Gen 2:22 He formed a woman out of the rib and brought her to him. Gen 2:23 Then the man said, "At last, here is one of my own kind—Bone taken from my bone, and flesh from my flesh. 'Woman' is her name because she was taken out of man. (Genesis 2:18-24)

Also, the New Covenant revelation teaches us in Ephesians 5 the following: "Eph 5:22 Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands as to the Lord. Eph 5:23 For a husband has authority over his wife just as Christ has authority over the church; and Christ is himself the Savior of the church, his

body. Eph 5:24 And so wives must submit themselves completely to their husbands just as the church submits itself to Christ. Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives just as Christ loved the church and gave his life for it. Eph 5:26 He did this to dedicate the church to God by his word, after making it clean by washing it in water, Eph 5:27 in order to present the church to himself in all its beauty—pure and faultless, without spot or wrinkle or any other imperfection.

Eph 5:28 Men ought to love their wives just as they love their own bodies. A man who loves his wife loves himself. Eph 5:29 (None of us ever hate our own bodies. Instead, we feed them, and take care of them, just as Christ does the church; Eph 5:30 for we are members of his body.) Eph 5:31 As the scripture says, "For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and unite with his wife, and the two will become one." Eph 5:32 There is a deep secret truth revealed in this scripture, which I understand as applying to Christ and the church. Eph 5:33 But it also applies to you: every husband must love his wife as himself, and every wife must respect her husband.

Furthermore, the account in Genesis 3:9-17 reveals that when Adam and Eve were hiding in the Garden, after eating of the forbidden fruit, God first confronted Adam (the man) to find out where he was. God then spoke to Eve and then to the serpent, and finally, God returned to Adam to close the confrontation with these words: "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree, of which I commanded you, saying, You shall not eat of it! ..." Here we understand that God clearly rebuked Adam (the man) for having DISOBEDED in listening to the advice of the serpent

carried by Eve.

The scenario of the original disobedience foreshadowed the modern-day disobedience of man, who indulges in the lusts and cravings of the present-day lifestyle, which is distorted because of worldly thinking. From this disobedience, God put Adam before his responsibilities as head of the family. Although man tried to justify himself by wanting to pass the blame on to his wife (It was the woman you put by my side who gave me this fruit, and I ate it), God did not dismiss his RESPONSIBILITY, because it is he who should guarantee the respect of the God's order.

With all humility, man is the first institution in the home, and he carries out the authority of the home by SERVING for the good of the home and by CARRYING out enormous responsibilities for the holistic (spiritual, moral, intellectual, and material) development of the home.

A woman is created in the likeness of man and is appointed by God to be a helper in this important mission. In this mission, God wanted the wife to be submissive to her husband while assisting him in obeying the norms laid down by God, in order to safeguard the MARITAL ORDER as defined in the Word. Thus, even when a wife brings home regular income from her work, there is no need for her to be in a position of humiliating her husband by becoming unsubmissive. And in turn, the husband will love his wife, support her and treat her with patience. Out of this love, she is happy and submissive in her position as a helper. Remember that submission, and love in return, are primarily spiritual forces before they are translated into action, and they provide mutual support and strength for spouses in order to stand firm and remain faithful during the bad days called the "worst."

Undermining the organisational norms that God designed and established for your home, or simply abandoning these norms, is tantamount to dismantling the ORDER established by the LORD, the Creator. Sadly, however, in his pride, man has chosen to replace the wisdom of God with his own arrogant thinking. Thus, he has replaced the light with darkness. With regard to the marital order, the Word is interpreted according to the times and geographical areas. It is even rejected to suit the prevailing philosophical, political, religious, and economic trends and interests.

The consequences of this human arrogance did not take long to be felt: women have become rebellious and disobedient to both men and God, while men have stopped loving their wives. Alternatively, it is the man who has ceased to love his wife, and on the other hand, she has become rebellious and disobedient. Either way, the consequences are the same. Indeed, most married people now live as if they were under a business contract or in stock market speculation, each one waiting for the right trend in values to pull his part.

Since the man has lost the love that God put in him for his wife, and she has become rebellious, the order has disappeared and disorder has set in, and chaos has ensued! Under the label of marriage, the "spouses" actually survive in cohabitation, and in many cases, because of social and protocol conventions. God only knows how many couples live in the same bed or under the same roof as scout camping friends: they go shopping together, they eat together, they go to dances together... but at home, each one has his own duvet and his own moneybox. Where then is the blessing that God gave to man and woman when He said "they shall

become one flesh... What God has joined together, let no man put asunder"? All this seems to have become absurd to Man, who thinks he is wise in his own eyes.

Selfish interests and personal material success have become a priority for the spouses at the expense of unity and the true happiness which constitutes the united family in Jesus Christ.

Faced with this chaos, the heart of Man has become empty and without reference points, thus leaving the way free for the enemy, who comes to steal and destroy without mercy. Confused, Man seeks refuge in what the world offers him. Philosophical currents spring up everywhere, depending on sexist or economic trends. By renouncing the values established by God, in order to build its own rules, humanity has become insecure, and in order to survive in this state of uncertainty, everyone engages in a process of a permanent fight and multifaceted violence in which each "party" believes that it has the right to ensure its own back. The downside of this state of affairs is the self-destruction of the family and its disastrous consequences for the whole community. Each gender seeks to assert itself at the expense of the other. Men and women now live in compromise and complacency in order to survive in this century, even if it means losing all hope of eternal life, which, moreover, has become a utopia or an absurdity for the so-called modern and realistic man.

From the philosophy of gender equality, it is good and wise to note here that already at creation, God wanted the woman to be the being who "is like the man", and under the New Covenant, the man, and the woman benefit from the same Grace in Jesus Christ for Salvation.

Indeed, Galatians 3:28 says: "...there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for you are all ONE in Christ Jesus." So, starting from these holy texts, we can say, without being mistaken, that humans have not invented anything on this subject.

To avoid any misunderstanding, we would like to make it clear that a woman who meets men at work and other women should be treated on the basis of the law of employment and social welfare. Both men and women should strive for working conditions and remuneration that objectively correspond to the function and service provided, regardless of gender.

However, in its malice, through the "Gender" movement, the enemy has made women believe that it brings them full emancipation and frees them from the bonds that keep them in the form of marriage.

Marriage has its own founding norms, constructed by God the Creator and fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Because of man's rejection of these standards, marriage has seen its foundations crumble. Spouses prefer to earn all the gold in the world and sacrifice the marriage and the "house" they are building. Man now accepts this compromise in the name of economic, philosophical, or religious currents of thought, or for a precarious peace in the home, which is in reality only a truce before hostilities resume...

Deeply unhappy couples hide their suffering under the glitter that is displayed on a daily basis in social networks or in their closest social circles. The media becomes the place for fake consolation before returning to their grief,

which is real. When man accommodates himself to compromise, which is contrary to the will of God (the Word), it is as if he applied poor quality cosmetics, which brighten the skin for a short time, with the consequence that the skin might burn later or that the true colour of the skin might come back. But let us remember that the Word of God remains eternal light and Truth, and Jesus Christ, through it, on the day of the Lord, will judge the complacent and compromised world.

Anyone who indulges in cosmetics will answer, not only in this age but also before God.

The fervent prayer of the redeemed in Jesus Christ should be that God will build the marriage from the beginning and walk with the spouses. Our missteps upstream or in the marriage journey will reflect negatively on the quality of life of the whole house, like poor cosmetics.

Our missteps before or during the marriage process will have a negative impact on the quality of life of the whole house, like poor quality cosmetics on the skin. This is why we must in all things and in all circumstances seek the will of God revealed necessarily in the Word, which does not accommodate compromise.

If we are already victims of the faux pas before or in the course of the marriage, our prayers should be for GRACE, REPENTANCE, and REHABILITATION. Since the ways of God are unfathomable, in Jesus Christ, God will save those who humble themselves, repent, and fear Him. Let us remember what God did in the house of Lot (Genesis 19:17 and 26). This is still possible, for God does not change, and this punishment can be reserved for both the man and the woman, who looks back in the lust of what the world offers her in seduction.

"And this is the condemnation, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than the Light because their deeds were evil. (John 3, 19)

«But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and with no reproach, and it shall be given to him..." (James 1: 5) Blessed is the man who does not listen to the counsel of the wicked but finds joy in the Word and meditates on it day and night.

May the Word be at the heart of our lives and make us live.

*To have the grace to remain in the marital order as ordained by God the Creator, we must accept Jesus Christ as the LORD of our lives.
Amen.*