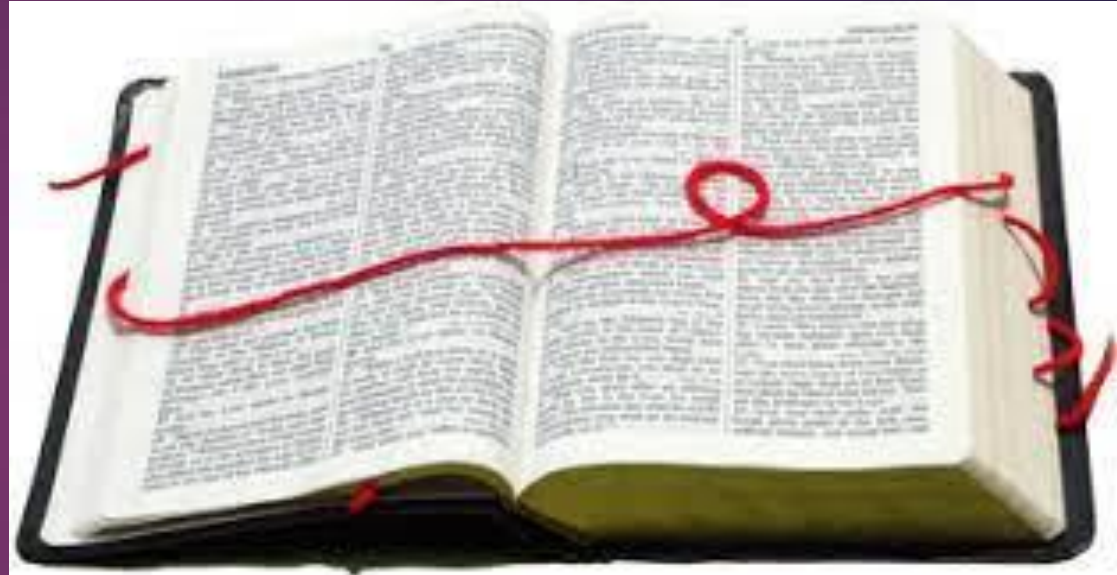


*Welcome to Women's
Bible Study!*

MARCH 19, 2024

Welcome!

This Year:
Tracing
Biblical Themes

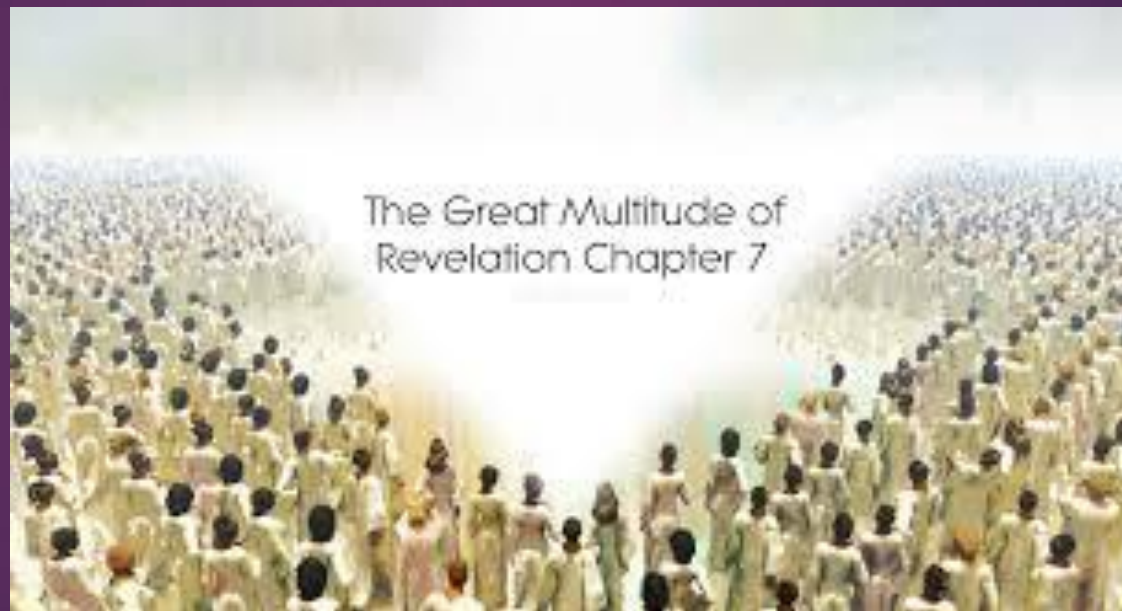


Revelation

- *Revelation is the revelation not of a timeline but of a Person*



Garments/Clothing



Sacrifice/Atonement/Lamb





gentile

Gentiles/Israel



CHURCH



Babylon



**Fallen, fallen
is Babylon
the great!**



Suffering and Glory



Marriage

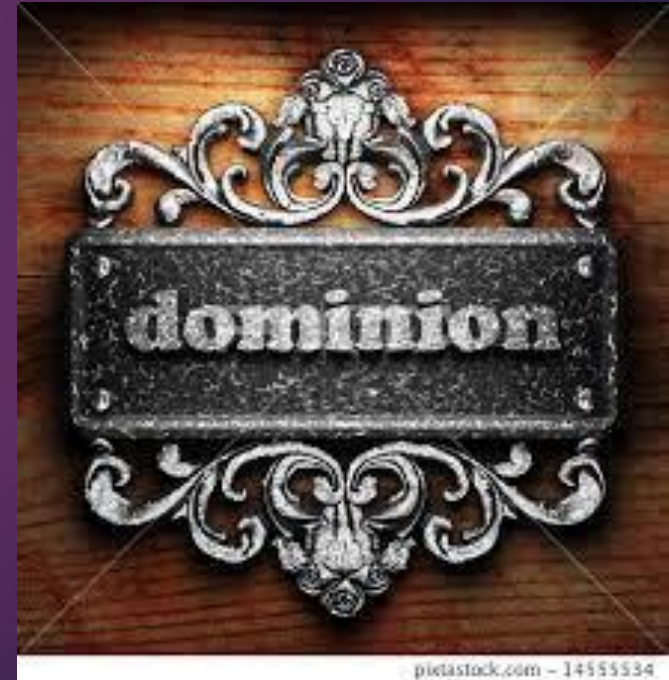
In our culture today, defining the origin and purpose of marriage is of key importance not just to defend truth, but because of the picture of the gospel that marriage is meant to portray.



Genesis 1:27: “So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”



Genesis 2:28 “And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

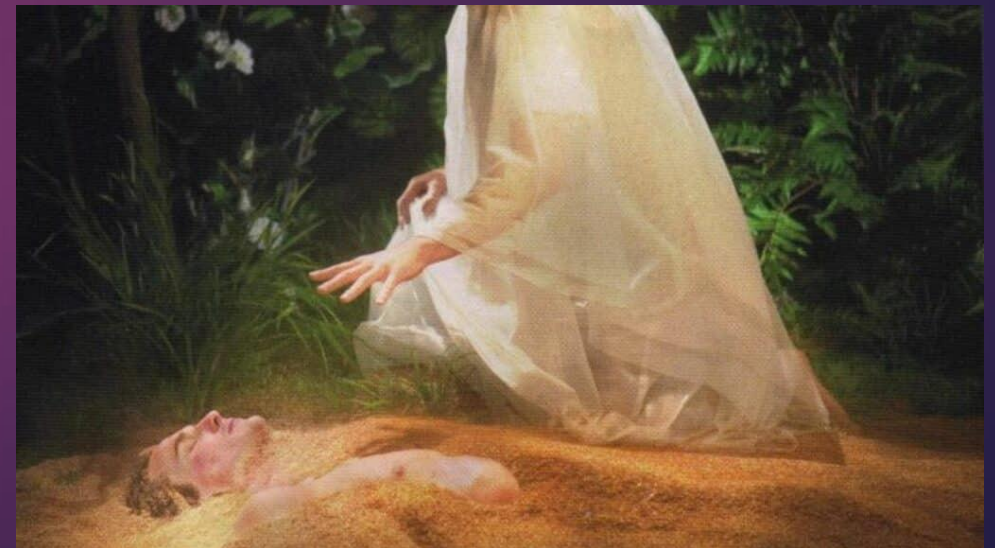


Helper



Genesis 2:18: “Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”

Genesis 2: 20: “But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. 21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man He made into a woman and brought her to the man.”



Genesis 2:23: “Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”



Genesis 2:24: "Therefore, a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed."



“Marriage puts a barrier around a husband and his wife and destroys all barriers between them; they belong fully to one another, and to one another only.” (R.C. Ortlund)



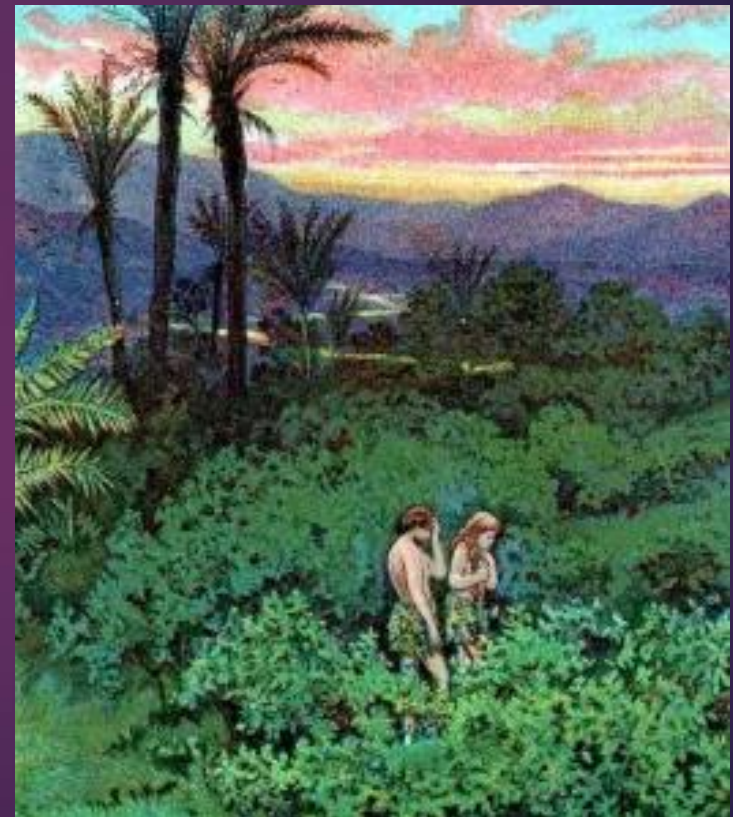
*Genesis 3:1: “Did God
actually say...”*



Genesis 3:6: “she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.”



Genesis 3:7: “Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked.”



Genesis 3:12: “The man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.”



Genesis 3:17: Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you;



Genesis 3:16: I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.”

Control

Genesis 4:23: "Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say: I have killed a man for wounding me,"





Deuteronomy 24:1 “When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house...”





Malachi 3:16: “For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the LORD, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts.”

Song of Songs 6:3:

“I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine;”



Beloved

Ezekiel 16:8: “When I passed by you again and saw you, behold, you were at the age for love, and I spread the corner of My garment over you and covered your nakedness; I made My vow to you and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Lord GOD, and you became Mine.”



Jeremiah 2:2: “I remember the devotion of your youth, your love as a bride, how you followed Me in the wilderness, in a land not sown.”



Bride

Isaiah 54:5: “For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is His name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth He is called.”

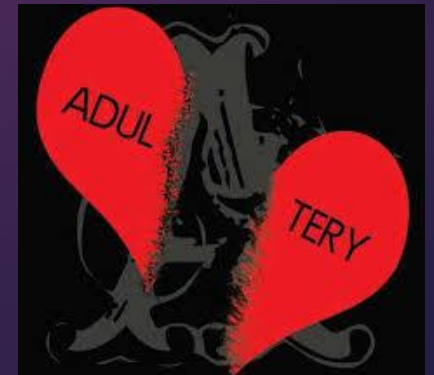


Husband

Ezekiel 16:15: “But you trusted in your beauty and played the whore because of your renown and lavished your whorings on any passerby; your beauty became his”



Jeremiah 3:6-8: "The LORD said to me in the days of King Josiah: "Have you seen what she did, that faithless one, Israel, how she went up on every high hill and under every green tree, and there played the whore? 7 And I thought, 'After she has done all this she will return to me,' but she did not return, and her treacherous sister Judah saw it. 8 She saw that for all the adulteries of that faithless one, Israel, I had sent her away with a decree of divorce."



Jeremiah 3:1 “You have played the whore with many lovers; and would you return to Me? declares the LORD.”



Jeremiah 31:32: "...not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD"



Hosea 1:2: "When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD."



Hosea 2:19: “And I will betroth you to Me forever. I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. 20 I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD.”



Jeremiah 31:34: For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”



New Testament

Matthew 19:8: “Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.”



Ephesians 5:22-32: Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, His body, and is Himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. 25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that He might present the church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. 28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, 30 because we are members of His body. 31 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

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2 Corinthians 11:2-3: "For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. 3 But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ."



Engaged

Fulfilment/Culmination in Revelation:

Revelation 17: 1-2: “Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, 2 with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk.....And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: “Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations.”



**Fallen, fallen
is Babylon
the great!**

Revelation 17: 5-6: And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.”



Revelation 19:7-8: “Let us rejoice and exult and give Him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.”



Revelation 21:1-3: "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God."



Revelation 21:9-10: “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God,”





THE SPIRIT
AND
THE BRIDE
SAY,
'COME!'

REVELATION 22:17

→ *The theme of marriage culminates in the Revelation of Jesus Christ as the spiritual reality that marriage is meant to reflect is fully seen. There will be no human marriages in heaven, for heaven and God dwelling with His people is the marriage! (Ortlund)*



Song of Songs: 2:10-13: The voice of my beloved! Behold, he comes, leaping over the mountains, bounding over the hills. 9 My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Behold, there he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, looking through the lattice. 10 My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away, 11 for behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. 12 The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. 13 The fig tree ripens its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away."

Song of Songs 6:3:

“I am my Beloved's and my Beloved is mine;”



Goal: To grow in the knowledge of the Lord in order to treasure Him more fully and to reflect Him more accurately as we are conformed to His image.



Discussion/Sharing Time

- 1. Do we view marriage, specifically our marriage, if we are married, as revealing the mystery of Christ and the church? How might reflecting on that change the way we see our marriage and how we interact with our spouse?*
- 2. What might it look like to live like we are in the season of “betrothal” to the Lord? How would that affect how we spend our time, what we focus on, and where our heart is?*
- 3. How does the picture of marriage, in which we are intended to be fully known and fully loved, inform our understanding of our relationship with Christ and the intimacy we are meant to have with our Bridegroom. Do you view your relationship with Jesus in that way-that you are fully known and fully loved?*

Closing Thoughts

· The “one fleshness” of human marriage points upward to the eternal spiritual union of Christ and His bride, the church. This symbolism that points to a greater spiritual reality is what gives marriage its inherent significance.

· Satan sought to destroy marriage and that picture from the very beginning and continues to this day. We need to be able to explain the origin and significance of marriage to our kids both in word and the way we live out the picture of Christ and the church every day. As the enemy attacks marriage and even the very core identity of man as male and female, may we boldly proclaim truth and be unwavering in our devotion to Christ.

· May we await our coming Bridegroom daily, longing eagerly for His appearing.

Homework:

- *Continue your study on themes associated with suffering/glory (affliction, trial/glory exaltation)*
- *Consider getting additional resources to help in your study time.*
- *Next Study: April 23: King and Kingdom*



Sept 26: Garments/Clothing
Oct 24: Lamb/Sacrifice/Atonement
Nov 28: Gentiles/Israel
Jan 23: Babylon/Rebellion/World
Feb 27: Suffering/Glory
March 19: Marriage
April 23: King/Throne/Kingdom
May 7: Tree of Life/Temple



Sources Used:
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