

# MARRIAGE: THE FOUNDATION OF AN ORDERLY SOCIETY

In June of this year, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the federal “same sex marriage” ban as set forth in the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) is unconstitutional. Last month, Governor Jerry Brown of California signed a bill into law which will allow “transgender” public school students to choose which bathroom they use based on gender “identity”. In other words, biological boys will be allowed to use the girls’ restrooms and showers, and biological girls will be allowed to use the boys’ restrooms and showers. More recently, President Obama held a closed-door roundtable discussion on issues facing bisexuals. According to LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) liaison Gautam Raghavan, “participants and administrative officials will discuss a range of topics including health, HIV/AIDS, domestic and intimate partner violence, mental health, and bullying.”

In light of these developments, several questions come to mind. First of all, are there any forms of sexual activity from which we should refrain? Does the physical compatibility of male and female imply that there is a creator who intended for them to have an exclusive relationship between one another? If so, do we have the right to violate the natural laws of our Creator? Some would criticize those who believe the concept of a creator who establishes natural laws to govern his creatures. However, consider the consequence of believing otherwise. If there is no creator, then there is no natural law to determine normal human behavior. Without an establishment of normal, perversion can not exist. Therefore, normal is whatever we want it to be.

In light of the biological differences between men and women, along with their ability to reproduce, isn’t it far more reasonable to believe that we have been created for heterosexual relationships based on biological gender. With these thoughts in mind, let’s consider the reasonableness of the exclusive male/female relationship as it is taught in the Bible. According to most biblical scholars, the creation of the earth and human life took place approximately six thousand years ago. Following the creation of the first man, God caused a deep sleep to fall upon him. He then took one of his ribs and made woman. When the woman was brought to the man, he (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. Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” (Gen. 2:23-24) The Bible teaches that the reason God made the woman was to provide a helper or an aid for the man (Gen. 2:18, 20). Obviously the purpose of marriage, in the beginning, was to provide mutual companionship and support between man and woman. The birth of children is a natural consequence of this unique relationship. Furthermore, within the marriage relationship, we are commanded by God to “...Be fruitful, and multiply...” (Gen. 1:28).

Oftentimes, man-made institutions become inefficient and ineffective because the original purpose ceases to be the primary focus. For example, look at the public school system. In many parts of the country, it has become a huge bureaucracy which has lost focus with regard to the basic education of children: reading, writing, and arithmetic. Likewise, at least half of all marriages fail today because we have lost view of the original design and purpose of marriage. The word of God clearly emphasizes the importance of oneness and unity in the marriage relationship when it states, “...they shall be **one flesh**.” The scriptures make it clear that a successful marriage requires honest, open, and transparent communication between husband and wife. Many men and women allow unresolved differences or opposing opinions to form barriers between them. This robs them of the special, one of a kind intimacy which God intended for them to enjoy.

Even some seemingly good marriages are lacking in real devotion because the husband and wife are unwilling to openly communicate about the problems which are encountered in the relationship. Probably, the biggest single factor which breaks down the communication is a selfish attitude. Today, many children are given whatever they want by their parents and fail to learn the meaning of personal sacrifice. Consequently, young people marry and expect their spouse to conform to their will at all times. In Ephesians 5:25, Paul said, “Husbands love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and gave himself for it;” What a difference it would make if more men and women observed this one principle of giving as they attempt to build a strong marriage.

The stability of a nation is a direct consequence of the stability of the family. The order of the home is a microcosm of the order of society. The character we develop in our children will ultimately be the character of our country. Let us seriously consider the direction of our country and pray for wisdom to

establish our homes based on the wisdom of the Creator. Furthermore, may the stability of our homes teach our children to follow the laws of nature as given to them by the God of nature.

If you're looking for a church that esteems the moral authority of God's word, then we invite you to worship with us at Zion Primitive Baptist Church. The church is located about 8 miles North of Gordo, just West of Hwy 159 on County Road 49 in the Zion community. Elder Chris McCool is the pastor.

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