

WHY STUDY THE HOME? (Genesis 2:20-24)

I. Because of the importance of marriage.

- A. Study of marriage is important because God has laws and instructions about it in His word.
 - 1. Jesus said, If you love me, keep my commandments (John 14:15).
 - 2. He has given us commandments on marriage, and if we love Him we will keep those commandments.
 - 3. Obedience to God in all things brings about happiness (1 Peter 3:14).
 - 4. Disobedience brings about pain and sadness.
- B. It's also important because there are tremendous consequences to marriage, both good and bad.
 - 1. There are consequences for the bride and groom.
 - a. They will spend the rest of their lives with this person.
 - b. They will make decisions that affect their happiness.
 - c. They will experience a little of heaven or a little of hell, or some of both possibly.
 - d. One can be built up or torn down in marriage.
 - 2. The children of that marriage are affected.
 - 3. The families of the bride and groom are affected as well.
 - a. Great joy or great sorrow can be brought on parents and family members.
 - b. When you marry someone you marry their family.
 - 4. It affects the community and our nation.
 - a. The home is the foundation of the community.
 - b. When homes fall apart it has an influence on it, if they stay together happily, there is an influence.
 - c. Righteousness exalts a nation (Proverbs 14:34).

II. Because efforts are being made to destroy marriage.

- A. As we know there is great pressure placed on governments, both state and federal, to recognize homosexual relations as marriages.
- B. This would be considered a deliberate attempt to destroy the home.
 - 1. The states of California and Massachusetts both recognize homosexual marriages.
 - 2. The Bible says marriage is to be between a man and a woman (Matthew 19:4).
 - 3. Any attempts to change marriage is rebellion against the commands God issued about marriage.
- C. There are also un deliberate attacks against marriage.
 - 1. Those that teach the Bible is a dead letter help tear apart the foundation of the home and marriage.
 - 2. Divorce for any reason is rampant and families are torn apart by this.

3. Couples living together outside of marriage is hurting the home terribly.
4. The nations view on immodesty, fornication and pornography tear apart the home.
5. Notice who is hailed as a hero in our culture.
 - a. As Thomas Warren wrote, "...the heroes of many people are those whose morals (at least so far as sexuality is concerned) are hardly above those of the animals of the barnyard.
 - b. Homosexuality, adultery and fornication rule the day in Hollywood.

III. Because it involves tremendous commitment.

- A. Our nation does not understand the commitment involved in this divine institution.
- B. Someone said "Marriage is like twirling a baton, turning handsprings or eating with chopsticks: It looks easy til you try it."
- C. Remember your wedding vows?
 1. Til death do us part.
 2. There is great commitment in marriage.
- D. It's not "Let's get married and see how it works."
- E. Remember the words of our Lord (Matthew 19:6).

IV. Because too many don't go to the right source for information.

- A. There are great books about marriage and there are terrible books about marriage.
- B. The only book that is inspired and gives rules and guidelines for great marriages is the Bible.
- C. TV shows, magazines and newspapers should not be the main source for information on the strengthening of our marriages.
 1. These would tell us all are eligible for marriage when the Bible gives us classed of people who are and are not.
 2. Those who have never been married, whose spouse have died or whose spouse committed fornication are the only ones eligible for marriage (Matthew 19:3-12).

V. Because the strengthening of the souls of those involved depend on it.

- A. 1 Peter 3:7.
 1. If you want to stunt your spiritual growth, have a bad marriage.
 2. Some say it is impossible to worship because of their relationship with their spouse.
 3. The way we live with our spouses affects our spiritual state and growth.
- B. Who we choose as a spouse may very well determine our spiritual destiny as well as that of our children.
 1. If our marriages are constant battles and places of strife, it could effect the destiny of our souls.
 2. If there is bitterness and hostility and a failure to love our spouse as we should, sin is present in our marriage.

3. Our children see this and it will effect them as well.
4. It will effect them emotionally which may very well carry over into their marriages and relationships.

From an article by Thomas B. Warren.