

MARRIAGE: Covenant of Grace

February 15, 2015 — The Meaning of Marriage series — Pastor Andrew Coleman

Colossians 2:13-15; 3:12-19 (ESV)

13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, **14** by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. **15** He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him... **Ch 3:12** Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, **13** bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. **14** And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. **15** And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. **16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **17** And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. **18** Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. **19** Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them...

REVIEW: Genesis 2:18-25 Ephesians 5:31-32 Rev. 19:6-9

The Bible begins with a wedding and ends with a wedding.

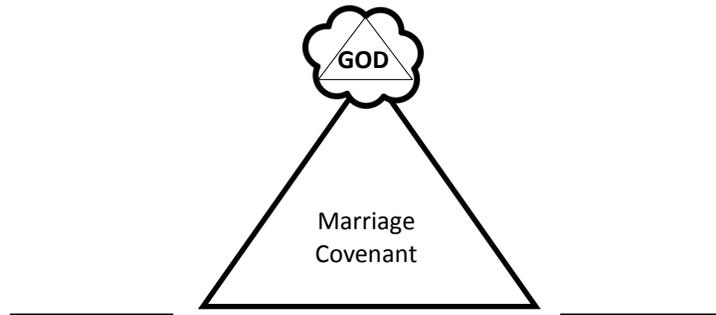
I. FOUNDATIONAL BASIS: Marriage is God's Doing.

- A) Marriage was God's Design.
- B) God gave away the first Bride. (specially fit)

II. ULTIMATE PURPOSE: Marriage shows God's Glory.

- A) It reflects Christ's covenant commitment to the church.
- B) Christ is the bride-groom; the church is the bride.

Covenant Commitment: Christ/the Church, Husband/Wife



THE CENTRALITY OF FORGIVING, JUSTIFYING GRACE:

Whose sins were nailed to the cross? MY SINS.

Whose flesh was nailed to the cross? CHRIST'S FLESH.

This is called substitution. We are saved by pure grace.

Romans 8:3

“Sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh.”

Colossians 2:13-14

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Vertical Justification enables Horizontal Reconciliation:

Colossians 3:12-14

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Living in honor, forgiveness and acceptance is the God-given way to true marital success.

God is glorified when we love others as He loves us.

