

What God Hath Joined Together

by Mark Legendre

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. One of the most important aspects of the marriage relationship and yet the one most often broken is the one wherein the Bible says in Matthew 19:6, " what God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."
- B. GOD INTENDED THE MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP TO BE PERMANENT! (1 Man and 1 Woman for life!)
- C. Even most marriage vows recognize this important principle! (" until death do you part!")
- D. Consider these scriptures: (Rom. 7:1-3 / 1 Cor. 7:10-11 and 39)
- E. These thoughts help us to better understand Matthew 19:6!

II. "FROM THE BEGINNING "

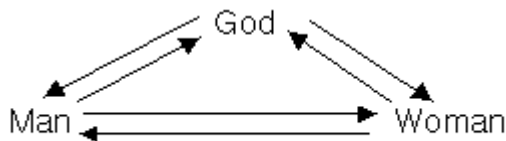
- A. God always intended marriage to be a lifelong relationship! (Gen. 2:18-25 / Mk. 10:2-12)
- B. Those who can't abide by God's law should think twice about getting married! (Mt. 19:7-12)
- C. REMEMBER? 1 Man + 1 Woman for life!

III. THE ONLY EXCEPTION TO THE RULE

- A. Fornication
 - 1. Read Mt. 19:19
 - 2. Read Mt. 5:31-32
- B. Remember that you do not have to get a divorce! ("You may give a 2nd chance!")

IV. MARRIAGE INVOLVES MORE THAN 2 PERSONS!

- A. Don't forget that God actually joins the man and woman together! (Mt. 19:6 / Gen. 2:22 / Mal. 2:11-16)
- B. Consider this illustration:



- C. When the man and woman say, "I DO," God is witness to this promise! (Mal. 2:14 / Eccl. 5:4-5)
- D. Consider God's part in Marriage!
 - 1. He established marriage! (Gen. 2)
 - 2. He sanctified marriage! (1 Cor. 7:1-5 / Heb. 13:4)
 - 3. He governs marriage! (Jms. 1:17)
 - 4. He makes the 2 to become 1 flesh ! (Mal 2:15)THEREFORE, MARRIAGE IS A PERMANENT RELATIONSHIP! (Mt. 19:3-8)

V. WE MUST TEACH OTHERS THESE PRINCIPLES!

- A. Especially our children! (Prov. 22:6 / Eph. 6:4 / Prov 5:7, 18-20)
- B. Divorce rate in 1982 was 50%! ("2.4 million marriages / 1.2 million divorces.")
- C. Much teaching on this subject needs to be done!

VI. CONCLUSION

- A. Greater commitment to God's principles concerning marriage is needed today! (Eph. 5:22-33 / Mt. 19:1-12 / 1 Cor. 7)
- B. Read these scriptures: Prov 18:22 / Heb. 13:4 / Ruth 1:16-17