

THE BIBLICAL DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE

Part 3

The Participants of Marriage

(A Man)

Gen. 2:22-23

INTRODUCTION

There are times in the course of human history when reliance upon the truth is ignored. Evolution would be an example of this fact. There is not a single shred of evidence found by any scientist that supports evolution, the belief in it has persisted -- though with more information concerning microbiology, that belief is teetering and on the verge of a complete collapse. Though they attempt to hold the line, the belief in evolution among some in academia is finally beginning to crumble.

The truth about marriage is in a similar situation in the secular world. The participants and the roles of those involved in marriage are being perverted today. God has provided for a man and a woman to form the institution called marriage. There are no other alternatives.

When we last met, we talked about the woman as one participant in marriage. Today, we will consider the man as the other participant in the union called marriage.

I. THERE ARE SEVERAL WORDS USED FOR MAN IN SCRIPTURE.

A. There are several Hebrew words used man.

1. "Adam" (אָדָם) is used over 500 times in the Old Testament to refer to man.
 - a) The articular use of "Adam" normally refers to Adam, the first man.
 - (1) Adam was placed in the garden. Gen. 2:15
 - (2) God gave Adam a command not to eat of the tree. Gen. 2:16
 - (3) God created a helpmate for Adam. Gen. 2:18
 - b) Other uses of "Adam" can refer to mankind.
2. "Iysh" is used in Scripture of a mature man that is capable of reproduction and heading a family. Gen. 2:23 (Eve was taken out of it); 19:31; Gen. 2:24 (of the daughters of Lot not having one)
3. "Yeled" is used of a young man. Cf. Dan. 1:4; (used of a baby); Ex. 2:3; 2 Sam. 12:18; Is. 9:6
4. "Zakar" is used to denote the **masculine sex of a person or animal**. Gen. 1:27; Gen. 7:16; 17:14

B. There are two primary words used in the Greek for "man".

1. "Anthropos" is a general usage for "man" in Scripture; mankind with man as the head of it. Matt. 4:4 (of Jesus stating that man cannot live by bread alone); Matt. 5:16 (the plural is used to support mankind); Matt. 6:14 (of men forgiving men their trespasses)
2. "Aner" is used close to 200 times in the New Testament of a mature man; one of age. 1st Tim. 2:12 (one past adolescence); Lk. 1:27; Matt. 1:16 (of one mature enough to be a husband); Lk. 2:25 (of Simeon); Acts 21:26 (of the men Paul took to do a vow); Ja. 1:8, 12 (affects one's perspective in the Christian Life)

II. MEN ARE SEEN IN SCRIPTURE AS GENERATORS OF LIFE.

A. Men are termed Fathers because they generate biological life.

1. The word "father" is:
 - a) "Ab" in the Hebrew which means "**head or founder of a household, group, family, or clan.**" -- Brown, Driver & Briggs Gen. 4:20 (of things in the world system); 9:22 (of a people)
 - b) "Pater" is the Greek word meaning "**a generator or a male ancestor**" -- Joseph Thayer
2. Several phrases are used in Scripture to support man's generative abilities.
 - a) Seen in the phrase "children of men". Ps 14:2; Dan. 2:38
 - (1) "Children" is "ben" "**of literal and figurative relationship, including grandson, subject nation, quality or condition.**" -- Strong's lexicon
 - (2) "Of Men" -- belonging to Adam. Ps. 14:2; (enash--mankind)
 - b) Seen in the phrase "sons of men" Ps. 33:13
 - (1) "Sons" is "ben"
 - (2) "Of men" is "the Adam".

B. Men all pass along fallen life. Rom. 5:12

1. "One man" is the first man, Adam.
2. "Sin" is ἡ ἁμαρτία which is a reference to the sin nature. Cf. Rom. 5:21; 6:12; 7:8,9
3. "Passed" is "dierchomai" which is used in Scripture of **entering into a place and thoroughly going throughout all aspects of it.** Cf. Matt. 12:43 (of a demon which walks through dry places looking for rest); Acts 19 (of Paul passing through the upper coast of Ephesus)

CONCLUSION