

BUILDING A BIBLICAL MARRIAGE
Part One: The Covenant of Marriage

Text: Gen. 2:21-25

- Psalm 127:1: _____

I. THE COVENANT OF MARRIAGE

A. Definitions

- Covenant:
 - “A solemn _____ stated as a unilateral decree by one party to another or as an agreement between two parties in which each voluntarily assumes obligations as the basis for relationship and fellowship with the other.”
- Dictionary definition:
 - “A binding agreement made by two or more persons or parties; compact.”
- A better, brief Bible definition:
 - “An _____ commitment made by one person to another, and often reciprocated.”

B. Covenants in the Bible

- Types
 - _____ covenants
 - Covenants between people
 - The covenant of _____
- Characteristics:
 - Enduring
 - Unbreakable
 - Symbolized by _____
 - Unconditional
 - Secured by _____
 - _____ by God
- The best covenants (like God’s):
 - Motivated by _____
 - _____ in nature

C. A Sad Contradiction

- Words used in the Bible for God’s actions relative to His covenants:
 - _____
 - Establish
 - Make
 - Keep

- _____
- Words sometimes used for people’s actions relative to their covenants with God or each other:
 - _____ (1 Kings 19:10, Jer. 22:9)
 - Transgress (Jer. 34:18-19, Hos. 6:7)
 - _____ (Isa. 24:5-6, Jer. 11:10-11)
 - Forget/deal falsely (Ps. 44:17)
 - Corrupt/profane (Mal. 2:8-10)
- People _____ that covenants are for keeps:
 - Gal. 3:15: _____
 - Heb. 6:16: _____
- People often don’t keep their covenants:
 - Rom. 1:31: _____
 - Psalm 55:20: _____
- How true of today’s marriage practices!
 - Marriage today is considered a matter of _____ or contractual arrangement, not covenant.
 - Average cost of U.S. wedding in 2022 = \$30,000.
 - About _____ of 1st marriages in the U.S. end in divorce.

D. Genesis 2:21-25:

- “Woman...Man; A man...his wife”
 - One man and one woman
 - _____ by God
 - Established in God’s creative order for humanity (Gen. 1:27)
- 1. **Takeaway: We should honor, uphold, and defend the Biblical _____ of marriage.**
- “The LORD God...brought her unto the man...”
 - _____ by God
 - Blessed by God
 - Heb. 13:4: _____
- “Therefore shall a man leave...”
 - _____ by God
 - Ratified by God
 - God’s _____ over marriage and purpose for it
- 2. **Takeaway: We should acknowledge God’s _____ over marriage:**
 - By doing things His way in every way.
 - By putting Christ at the _____ of our marriages.