

The Family Structure: As God Would Have It

Gen 2:18 And the LORD God said, *It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.*

Gen 2:21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made He a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And Adam said, *This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.* 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

*Eph 5:31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32 This is **a great mystery**: but I speak **concerning Christ and the church**. (Emp. added)*

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Not Part of God's Plan:

Homosexual Marriage

It seems that our society is always changing for the worse. Immorality is shamelessly promoted and defended by celebrities, educators, and politicians. The law of our nation will allow a mother to kill her unborn baby, but will incarcerate a man for mistreating his pet. We have seen great changes in our nation as a result of the pro-homosexual agenda. What was once considered an abomination, detested and rejected by our society, has become embraced and championed. Laws have been changed, marriage has been re-defined, entire denominations have become split over this issue – and it is only getting worse.

by Heath Rogers, 9/28/2011 Watchman Magazine

No matter what law is passed legalizing "gay" marriage, if it doesn't parallel God's command (*or on whatever matter of law passed by man*), it is **not to be obeyed or agreed to!**

Lev 20:13 If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood *shall be* upon them.

Rom 1:24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: 25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, Who is blessed for ever. Amen. 26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: 27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

2Th 2:10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Divorce

When error is taught religiously, history shows people to be divided into one of three groups. First, there are those who advocate the error. Second, there are those who combat the error. And, finally, there are those who seek to minimize the differences, thus compromising with the error. Issues in the past 150 years have shown this to be true with the battles over the instrument in worship, and with the institutional issues that troubled brethren in the middle of the last century.

The same circumstance can be seen in the division of brethren over what the Bible teaches concerning marriage and divorce. There are the false teachers who advocate the error, the faithful brethren who combat the error, and a sizable number of brethren who seek to maintain fellowship with those who teach the error. As is commonly the case, the compromisers have turned to the 14th chapter of Romans, abusing that text in an attempt to justify their compromise with the false teacher.

by Stan Cox, 6/1/2003 Watchman Magazine

Rom 14:5 ...Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.

The only divorce that stands the legal muster of God's court is the one that is according to the only addendum given by Him.

Mat 5:31 It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: 32 But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, **saving for the cause of fornication**, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery. (*Emp. added*)

Mal 2:13 And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that He regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth it with good will at your hand. 14 Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. 15 And did not He make one? Yet had He the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That He might seek a godly seed*. Therefore take heed to your spirit (*think about it!*), and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. 16 For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that He **hateth putting away**: for *one* covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously. (*Emp. added*)

**Statistics show that godly marriages, for the most part, produce godly offspring.*

Abortion

"Adam's rib + Satan's fib = women's lib". (*unknown origin*)

Because Eve was the first to partake of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, women have since had pain in childbearing. And since she was originally created as Adam's "help meet" and forgot her "place" as such, God reminded her of it in Gen 3:16.

Gen 3:16 Unto the woman He said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire *shall be* to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled, in a Texas case entitled *Roe, et al. v. Wade*, "The Court's opinion decides that a State may impose virtually no restriction on the performance of abortions during the first trimester of pregnancy." (Justice William Rehnquist, dissenting). This case set the nation on a course of legalized abortion in unimaginable numbers. Over the first fifteen years after the Court's decision, an average of 1,500,000 babies annually were aborted under the protection of *Roe v. Wade*. Doctors, hospitals and clinics all were faced with the ethical and moral question of whether or not to allow the legal procedure to be done or not.

By Larry Fain, 2/1/2000 Watchman Magazine

Psa 127:3 Lo, children *are* an heritage of the LORD: *and* the fruit of the womb *is His* reward.

Psa 139:13 For Thou hast possessed my reins (*Heb.3629-mind*): Thou hast covered (*Heb.5526-to protect*) me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made: marvellous *are* Thy works; and *that* my soul knoweth right well. 15 My substance (*Heb.6108-body*) was not hid from Thee, when I was made in secret (*Heb.5643-privily*), *and* curiously wrought (*Heb.7551-to variegate [mark with different colors-Webster] color, embroider*) in the lowest parts (*Heb.8482-womb*) of the earth. 16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect (*Heb.1564-embryo*); and in Thy book all *my members* were written*, *which* in continuance were fashioned (*Heb.3335-mold into a form; especially as a potter*), when *as yet* there was none (*Heb.259-united*) of them.

*Everyone starts out in the book of life but most have "erased" themselves out.

Isa 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *His* face from you, that He will not hear.

"Since the slaughter of the unborn was legalized in 1973, almost 40 million innocent babies have had their lives snuffed out." (*stated in 2003*)

As an eagle's egg contains a federally protected endangered species, so a mother's womb contains a maternally protected, federally neglected human being with all the rights the Constitution affords to anyone else: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

by Jeff Smith, 12/1/2003 Watchman Magazine

Some would argue for abortion saying the unborn is only lifeless tissue. They then argue against capital punishment claiming it would be akin to murder. They would slay the innocent and protect the guilty.

Pro 6:16 These six *things* doth the LORD hate: yea, seven *are* an abomination unto Him: 17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and **hands that shed innocent blood***, 18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, 19 A false witness *that* speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren. (*Emp. added*)

**In this case at least three sets of hands have shed innocent blood. The mother having the abortion, the father who agrees to it and the physician who performs it (not to mention those who aid him in doing so).*

Rom 13:4 For he (*ruler-Gk.758-magistrate*) is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to *execute* wrath upon him that doeth evil (*even capital punishment*). 5 Wherefore *ye* must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. 6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

Exo 21:22 If men strive, and **hurt a woman with child**, so **that her fruit depart from her**, and yet no mischief follow: he shall be surely punished, according as the woman's husband will lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges *determine*. 23 And **if *any* mischief follow**, then thou shalt give **life for life**, 24 Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25 Burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe. (*Emp. added*)

This passage alone should be enough to settle the argument of whether or not the unborn are to be protected.

The devil loves to ice the cake of sin with a cover-up; those contemplating an abortion should resist him and come clean. He would love to add murder to the sin of fornication, but God counsels birth and even the possibility of adoption when necessary.

by Jeff Smith, 12/1/2003 Watchman Magazine

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In God's Plan:

The Responsibility of Husbands **MAN UP!**

Col 3:19 Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them.

Pro 18:22 *Whoso* findeth a wife findeth a good *thing*, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.

1Pe 3:7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with *them* according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the (*physically*) weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

The Responsibility of Fathers

Eph 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Pro 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Deu 11:18 Therefore shall ye lay up these My words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. 19 And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 20 And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates: 21 That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth.

Col 3:21 Fathers, provoke not your children *to anger*, lest they be discouraged.

Pro 22:15 Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; *but* the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

One of the qualifications to be an elder has to do with how he leads his own family.

1Ti 3:4 One that ruleth (*Gk.4291-to stand before, preside*) well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity (*Gk.4587-venerableness [Webster-respect]*); 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

The Responsibility of Wives **WOMAN UP!**

Col 3:18 Wives, submit yourselves (*Gk.5293-be under obedience*) unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

Pro 31:10 Who can find a virtuous (*Heb.2428-force, strong*) [Webster: chaste; descent, modest] woman? for her price is far above rubies. 11 The heart (*Heb.3820-intelect*) of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. 12 She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

Society should **not** define the strength of womanhood!

1Pe 3:1 Likewise, ye wives, *be* in subjection to your own husbands; that, **if any obey not the word**, they also may **without the word be won by the conversation of the wives**; 2 While they behold your chaste conversation (*Gk.391-behavior*) coupled with fear. (*Emp. added*)

Any woman who feels she has the right to be over her husband is weak and has given in to the "fib" of Satan. **As the family goes, so goes the nation!** A nation's downfall can be contributed to the family structure.

The Responsibility to Grandmothers

1Ti 5:3 Honour widows that are widows indeed.4 But if any widow have children or nephews (*Gk.1549-descendant, grandchild, nephew*), let them learn first to shew

piety at home, and to requite (*repay*) their parents (*Gk.4269-ancestor, [grand] parent*): for that is good and acceptable before God.

Tit 2:3 The aged women likewise, that *they be* in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; 4 That they may **teach the young women** to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 *To be* discreet, chaste, keepers at home*, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. (*Emp. added*)

*Keepers of the home- Whether she works outside the home or not, her focus is to be on her place as the one who keeps the home front. The virtuous woman of Prov 31 worked outside the home but her focus was on the home. Her focus wasn't on a career unless it allowed her to remain focused on her family and not on her self!

The Responsibility of Children to Parents/ Parents to Children

2Co 12:14 Behold, the third time I am ready to come to you; and I will not be burdensome to you: for I seek not yours, but you: for **the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children.** (*Emp. added*)

Eph 6:1 Children, **obey your parents** in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. (*Emp. added*)

Col 3:20 Children, obey *your* parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

Psa 127:3 Lo, children *are* an heritage of the LORD: *and* the fruit of the womb *is His* reward. 4 **As arrows** *are* in the hand of a mighty man; so *are* children of the youth. 5 Happy *is* the man that hath his **quiver full of them**: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate. (*Emp. added*)

SO the family to be as God would have it then would be one where:

1. husband (*male*) and wife (*female*) are **scripturally** married. (*not "shaking up"*)
2. "family planning" doesn't include abortion in the process!
3. taking care of parents, grandparents who are unable to take care of themselves is the norm.
4. parents are helping their children financially, or otherwise, to get on their feet.
5. children have respect for their parents.
6. grandmothers (*and grandfathers*) have input.
7. God is the center of every decision, teaching and action.

In order to be a member of God's family, the church...

Hear: Romans 10:17 ... "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Believe: Heb 11:6 ... "for he that cometh to God must believe that He is"...

Repent: Lk 13:3 ... "except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Confess: Mat 10:32 "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess before My Father which is in Heaven."

Be baptized: Acts 2:38 ... "repent and be baptized...in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins"...

Remain faithful: Rom 6:4 ..."even so we also should walk in newness of life."

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