

## God and the Family: The Origin of the Family and the Home

Genesis 1:27-28 through 2:7-25

Sunday, May 8, 2011

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GENESIS 1:27-28, (King James Version)

<sup>27</sup>So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. <sup>28</sup>And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

GENESIS 2:7, 2:15-25

<sup>7</sup>And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

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<sup>15</sup>And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: <sup>17</sup>But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. <sup>18</sup>And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. <sup>19</sup>And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. <sup>20</sup>And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. <sup>21</sup>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; <sup>22</sup>And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. <sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. <sup>25</sup>And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

This is the family as God intended it to be, a marriage between a man and a woman, having children under God's authority in the home. The rule of God in the world began with the rule of God in the home.

This was the establishment of all honor and respect in the world. The family under the authority of the parents, with the husband loving his wife and the wife revering her husband and the children obeying their parents was the establishment of all government. Civil government could only be possible as long as there was proper government in the home.

Civil government in any nation is only an expression of the civility that dwells in the family life of that nation.

According to the New Testament Scriptures, how is the family under the rule of God and biblical authority supposed to look?

#### EPHESIANS 5:21-33

<sup>21</sup>Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. <sup>22</sup>Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. <sup>23</sup>For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. <sup>24</sup>Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. <sup>25</sup>Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; <sup>26</sup>That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, <sup>27</sup>That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup>So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. <sup>29</sup>For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: <sup>30</sup>For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones (Genesis 2:23). <sup>31</sup>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 (Gen. 2:24). <sup>32</sup>This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup>Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

## EPHESIANS 6:1-3

<sup>1</sup>Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. <sup>2</sup>Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; <sup>3</sup>That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

## MATTHEW 19:4-6

<sup>4</sup>And he (Jesus) answered and said unto them, Have ye not read (Genesis), that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, <sup>5</sup>And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? <sup>6</sup>Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

## I PETER 3:1-7

<sup>1</sup>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; <sup>2</sup>While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. <sup>3</sup>Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; <sup>4</sup>But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. <sup>5</sup>For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: <sup>6</sup>Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. <sup>7</sup>Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

## I TIMOTHY 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup>Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. <sup>12</sup>But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. <sup>13</sup>For Adam was first formed, then Eve. <sup>14</sup>And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

## I CORINTHIANS 11:3, 7-9

<sup>3</sup>But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God. <sup>7</sup>For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. <sup>8</sup>For the man is not of the

woman: but the woman of the man. <sup>9</sup>Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.

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- I. Strong and structured families under God's rule are foundational to law and order

Genesis 1:28 "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over (it)..."

Every way we look at the family from the beginning of creation to the New Testament we see the necessity of biblical authority being in place.

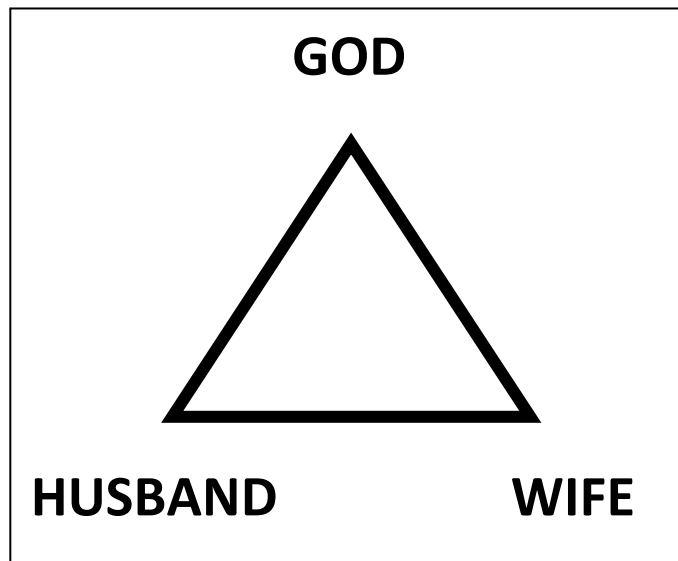
1. What was the first human institution that God created for the good of man?

The family. In the wisdom of God, it has always been His plan for a man and a woman to come together in marriage; for couples to commit themselves to each other and God for a lifetime for building and establishing a family under God for the wholesomeness of the human race and the establishment of knowing and loving the true God.

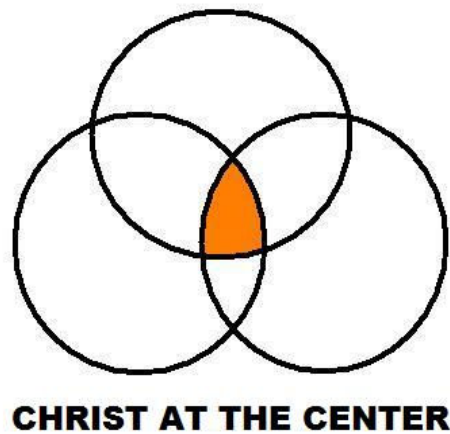
It is the building blocks of the community and the well-being, health and happiness of the human race. God established this relationship between a husband and wife and their children for love and discipline in moral virtue, education and the teaching of God's wisdom.

The family is what holds the world together in peace and harmony under the rule and authority of God as the Head and the man and the woman in a relationship with Christ and each other in Him.

It is like a triangle, the closer they get to God the closer they get to each other.



It's like three circles put together with Christ at the center of their life.



How does God define a family?

A man and a woman in commitment to each other for a lifetime under God's authority, with a marriage license.

Genesis 2:24

<sup>24</sup>Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

Jesus said, "What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder." Matthew 19:6

## 2. What is a covenant marriage?

In ancient times it was a binding oath between two people and the co-mingling of blood as one in agreement. If either should default, his life was to be taken in death in the shedding of his blood.

Both parties would slice the palm of their hands and co-mingle their blood in an oath.

God built Eve out of the side of Adam and the shedding of his blood. She was bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh. They were one: her life was in Adam and Adam's life was in Eve (Genesis 2:21-24).

The covenant of promise that God made to Abraham of the land to his descendents was through the shedding of blood and God Himself walking between the sacrificial pieces to ratify it (Genesis 15:7-18).

Today the exchanging of the rings and a marriage license with a solemn oath to one another "until death do us part" establishes a marriage.

## 3. Who is responsible for leadership in the home and strong government in a civil society? (Genesis 1:26, 28)

In the garden God delegated His authority to Adam, to the man to rule and take the leadership.

Fathers, teach your children the Word of God! The building is only as good as the foundation. The long period of childhood is necessary for the training and protection of the children. The mutual love and respect of the husband and wife is how God role-models respect into the very soul of the child.

The father and husband is responsible as the head of his wife and home for all the spiritual leadership and guidance. He is to honor Christ. The man is to be a covering to his wife as the weaker vessel and the primary provider. Adam, even before the fall was given a work to do by God and that was to dress and keep the garden.

Men were created to need respect and for that purpose the wife, under Christ, is to give it to her husband. Women were created to need love and

tenderness, and for that reason a man is to love and cherish his wife, even as the Lord does His Church.

Someone said, “the neck turns the head” and that is true. The wife has a lot of influence and it would be wisdom to take all into consideration before making any decision.

When we consider authority and the chain of command, what would happen if the Vice President of the United States was to say to the President, “I am not doing that.”?

A man may speak 10,000 words a day but a woman will speak 20,000 a day. A woman wants to talk about things and her feelings, but a man will act on the facts.

I Timothy 2:11-13

<sup>11</sup>Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. <sup>12</sup>But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

<sup>13</sup>For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

4. When God gave Adam the authority to rule over His creation, how does this apply to the family and civil government?

We speak of civilized nations where there is law and order, and respect for human life with moral restraint as opposed to those nations of non-civility and civil unrest.

What makes the difference??

It is in functional families under God where there is a father and mother present for a life time having children who respect their parents.

The state of the union is an expression of the state of the family.

The government is doomed to fail if God is not the head of the government and head of the family.

It is like the triangle: take God out of it and everything collapses.

- II. Adam discovered his uniqueness in the image of God and his “aloneness”.

Genesis 2:18-20

<sup>18</sup>And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. <sup>19</sup>And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. <sup>20</sup>And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

What was Adam to discover in naming all of the animals?

<sup>20</sup> "...but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him."

He was alone (Adam's mate was not an ape).

God allowed Adam to feel loneliness and a sense of incompleteness.

Why?

He had to feel a need that only God could provide and had already made plans to do so, in His way and in His time.

He needed to appreciate his wife and respect her needs and care for her in gratitude.

He needed to see what he had been given that he didn't have before and experience his own completeness and fulfillment in being with her.

#### God's timing in providing a man with a wife

1. He puts God first in his life. His priorities are not looking for a wife but in practicing his Christian faith. We attract to ourselves the kind of people we are.

James 1:26, 27

<sup>26</sup>If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. <sup>27</sup>Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

2. He has a stable job and God-given purpose in the world and is able to provide.
3. He has a deep need and a longing in his heart for the right woman of God's choice and is willing to wait.

III. God designed the woman in the unique image of the man.

Genesis 2:21-24

<sup>21</sup>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; <sup>22</sup>And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. <sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

Adam said this is now bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh. She shall be called woman because she was taken out of the side of a man.

When God made Eve out of the side of the man, He actually “built her” to be beautiful to a man’s eyes and heart. Eve drew her life from the man and Adam drew his life from God.