

# God's Wonderful Design for Marriage

**Date:** Sunday, November 18, 2018

**Message by:** Elder John Dateo

## I. Introduction

- A. Goal - appreciate God's design for marriage and your spouse.
- B. We appreciate a well-designed item – same with marriage.
- C. Singles have something to look forward to!

## II. Heavenly design:

- A. The tabernacle was made after a pattern (**Heb. 8:5**)
- B. Marriage is a copy of the heavenly pattern as well.

## III. Back to Genesis (**Gen. 2:18-25**)

- A. Verse 18: God thinking out loud with his plan:
  - 1. Helper – to assist, provide resources, strengthen, care for, comfort.
  - 2. Help in what way? Adam was to tend and keep the garden (**Gen. 2:15**).
    - Rule over all the works of your hands (**Psalms 8**).
    - Child rearing.
  - 3. God is a very present help in times of trouble.
  - 4. Holy Spirit is the Helper – parakletos – advocate, (**John 15:26**).
- B. Verse 19/20: The animals were brought to Adam in pairs to name – why?
  - 1. Adam was missing something – counterpart.
    - Only God could provide it.
    - He would be grateful (**Prov. 18:22**)
    - Adam's counterpart was to be different from the animals.
- C. Verse 21/22: Why was Eve taken from Adam's side?
  - 1. Out of Adam's side came his counterpart. Out of Christ's pierced side came the blood of the new Covenant for his counterpart, the Church!
  - 2. Adam's counterpart was a woman, not a man! Where did this idea come from?
    - This was God's design – it is the best! Will the clay argue with the potter?
  - 3. As a reason for giving men the authority in the church (**1 Tim. 2:11, 1 Cor. 11:8**).

D. Verse 23: **This is now** bone of my bones – in contrast to the 2 separately created animals:

1. Adam gets to name his wife – Wo! Man!
2. This woman came from man, as the Church came from Christ.
3. Different from how the animal partners were made

E. Verse 24: Leave and cleave... (Marriage).

1. Leave parents – new primary responsibility.
2. “Be joined” “glued, welded”.
3. No divorce - what God has joined together (**Mark 10:8-9**).
4. Be fruitful and multiply – Why? God wants a counterpart, a bride (**Rev. 19:7, 21:3**).
5. Earthly marriage and sexual union is a type of Christ and the church (**Eph. 5:31-32**).
  - The physical union of the man and woman represents the spiritual union of Christ and the Church (we are members of his body).
6. Marriage is between one man and one woman – God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve!
  - How do you answer a transgender person who says ever since they were a child they felt like they should have been the opposite sex?

#### IV. Conclusion

- A. All of us appreciate a good design – do we appreciate God’s design for marriage?
- B. Marvel that your marriage is modeled after the Christ and the Church.
- C. Look at your spouse with renewed appreciation – yes, your woman has put on some weight, but so have you. You can be pleasantly plump together!
- D. Have children, enjoy them. Realize that your children will be a part of the bride of Christ!