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THE GLORIOUS PURPOSE FOR *MARRIAGE*

In the past, marriage has been looked upon as an honorable institution. The modern day world, however, is experiencing a break-down of marriage that is phenomenal. Marriage has even been heralded as a thing of the past, obsolete. But there is a tremendous purpose for marriage that simply has not been taught to the modern day world. This article is dedicated to revealing the true purpose for marriage and the restoration of its honor.

How many of you reading this article are, have been, or plan to be married? How many of you have been taught or instructed on how to choose a mate? How many of you have been taught how to have a successful marriage? How many of you have been taught the purpose of marriage? How many of you have been taught the enduring quality of marriage, that it should be until the death of one or both parties?

In 1900 America had a divorce rate of 7.8%. Since that time the divorce rate has steadily increased until 1992 when the divorce rate was 51.4%. NPR (National Public Radio) recently ran a series on sex in America with one segment focusing on the break down of marriage. The point was made that many experts say the country needs a national conversation on the harmful effects of divorce, unwed motherhood, and casual fatherhood.

Alan Carlson of the Rockford Institute stated that marriage is the root foundation of all social structure, the best institution for the mutual care and protection of men and women and for nurturing children into humane, responsible adults. He warned that to move away from that as the norm is to ignore the lessons of history. Other societies, other civilizations have seen similar developments of their past. We're one of the first, though, to deny the obvious TRUTHS right before our eyes, the fact that as marriage declines, society declines, and social disorder mounts. At some point, if the decline goes far enough, it will consume society and, in fact, LEAD TO ITS END.

SELF-INTEREST

A shift in fundamental values has been one of the chief underlying causes in the destruction of marriage. People are putting a higher value on their own self-interests, personal career, personal fulfillment, individual liberty and happiness than on commitment to family or others. This attitude leads to selfishness, self-centeredness, self-love.

The Apostle Paul warned, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be LOVERS OF THEIR OWN SELVES, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, WITHOUT NATURAL AFFECTION, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of Elohim; having a form of piety, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away," 2 Tim. 3:1-5.

Truly, the break-down of the family with the ensuing problems, lawlessness, and perils of our day is announcing that we are in the last days.

CONSEQUENCES OF DIVORCE

As stated previously, over 51.4% of marriages end in divorce. What are the consequences of this abysmal failure? Many of our sociologists, psychologists and behavioral scientists have been performing thorough research into failed marriages and single



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parent families which has revealed frightening results. Research indicates that it is the fragmentation of the two-parent family which is the main cause of the societal ills heaped upon us today.

Broken homes and single parent families have been shown to yield confusion, juvenile delinquency, teenage pregnancies, school problems, behavioral and mental problems. Children of divorced families experience a higher divorce rate themselves, lower levels of education attainment (as a whole), lower earning levels, lower occupational attainments, higher levels of welfare recipients and higher levels of out-of-wedlock childbearing.

There are certain places in this country where fathers are so rare that bedlam engulfs the whole community. Children without fathers has produced an astonishing level of violence and incomprehensible incidents of brutality.

Studies indicate that 3 out of 4 teenagers who commit suicide come from single-parent homes.

Divorce is simply devastating to a child. It is a disaster that changes the whole scope of a child's life.

A child naturally loves both dad and mom very much. They are the two most important people in the world to them. They are the stability, insurance and security for a safe, happy haven.

It is impossible for a child to understand why dad and mom don't love each other since the child loves both so much. When the stability of family life is broken, the child's world comes crashing down. One or both parents will bear the blame and what was once deep love can turn quickly into resentment, bitterness and hatred.

A child loves his parents so much that he would willingly die for them. When that love is shattered the child cares less for himself or his own fate. A broken home ruins the esteem that a child has for himself as well as the esteem that he had for one or both of his parents.

THE FORSAKING

Yahweh proclaims, "**My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee**, that thou shalt be no priest to Me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy Elohim, I will also forget thy children," Hos. 4:6.

Paul also is inspired to write, "Because that which may be known of Yahweh is manifest in them; for Elohim hath shewed *it* unto them. For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even His* eternal power and majesty; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew Yahweh, they glorified *him* not as Elohim, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible Elohim into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore Yahweh also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of Yahweh into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. **For this cause Yahweh gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: 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. And even as they did not like to retain Yahweh in *their* knowledge, Yahweh gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;** Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,



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backbiters, haters of Yahweh, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: who knowing the judgment of Yahweh, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them,” Ro. 1:19-32.

The Scriptures truly are prophetic. Even the liberal NPR, which shows great favor toward homosexuality and other immoral sexual practices warns that the demise of our morality, our marriages, families, etc. will lead to destruction. They see and warn about the consequences of the breakdown of our morality and marriages, but still resist the only way to repair and make marriage and family life a success; which is knowledge of and compliance with the Holy Scriptures.

MARRIAGE INSTITUTED

Where and when was marriage instituted? What is the purpose for marriage anyway? The original marriage was introduced in the book of Genesis. Let’s go back to the beginning in Genesis 1 where we find the account of creation week. Yahweh performed many wondrous deeds in restoring the earth in a period of six days. On the sixth day, Yahweh finished the physical creation by making the living creatures, cattle and other beasts, and finally, man (Gen. 1: 1-28).

Genesis 2 is a recapitulation of Gen. 1:24-28, the sixth day of creation when the beasts and man were created. Chapter 2 reveals that Yahweh first created the man alone. Then He planted the garden of Eden. He then created all creatures out of the ground bringing them to Adam, allowing him to name them. None of the beasts were acceptable as a help meet (wife). Yahweh caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam. He took one of his ribs, closed his flesh up, and made a woman out of it. Adam proclaimed that she was bone of his bones and flesh of his flesh, calling her woman, because

she was taken out of man. Then Yahweh proclaimed, “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh,” Gen. 2, esp. v.v. 18-24.

Let us notice that the man was made first (Gen. 2:7, 18, 1 Tim. 2:13). Yahweh said, “It is not good that man should dwell alone,” Gen. 2:18.

The man was by himself, the only one of his type in existence. All other creatures had many of their type. They also were male and female. They could reproduce. Man had no companionship of someone like unto himself. He was male. He had no ability to reproduce of and by himself, because it takes male and female for reproduction. He was to work, dressing and keeping the garden of Eden. Besides that, he was to have dominion over the earth and over every creature, replenishing and subduing the whole earth (Gen. 1:26-28). This would have been an impossible task for only one man. Yahweh said, “I will make an ‘help meet’ for him,” Gen. 2:18 (last part).

The words help meet in the Hebrew are “ezer neged.” “Ezer” means to help, aid, succor. “Neged” means COUNTERPART, mate, over against, other side, etc. “Counterpart” means a person or thing that corresponds to or closely resembles another, as in form or function; **a thing which, when added to another, completes or complements it**; a copy or duplicate.

The woman is a duplicate copy, a counterpart for the man which completes and compliments him. The man and woman are male and female. “Neged” also means, over against. This denotes a similarity to the positive and negative poles of a magnet which attract one another. When they meet, they cleave to one another. So also was it intended for the man and woman. They are opposite sex and are to bond in marriage cleaving to one another becoming one flesh as stated in Gen. 2:24.

THE BINDING OF MARRIAGE



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Yahshua and the Apostle Paul reveal how closely marriage should be bound together. When questioned on divorce Yahshua said, "Have ye not read that He who made them at the beginning, made them male and female; and said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they two shall be one flesh? Wherefore, they are no more two, but one flesh. What, therefore, Elohim hath joined together, let not man put asunder," Mt. 19:4-6. The book of Mark says, "From the beginning of the creation Elohim made them male and female. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and they two shall be one flesh; so then they are no more two, but one flesh. What, therefore, Elohim hath joined together, let not man put asunder," 10:6-9.

Paul says, "Know ye not, brethren (for I speak to them that know the law), how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? For the woman who hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he liveth," Ro. 7:1-2. "The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth," 1 Cor. 7:39 (first part).

What Paul is describing here is a symbiotic relationship. It is a relationship of mutual interdependence. The man was first. The woman came from the man, having been made for him. Yahweh arranged it so that the woman is dependent on the man for her existence and the man is also dependent upon the woman. The one is not without the other. They are a complementing set.

However, since the man was made first, the woman being made second, being made from the man's rib and for the man, Yahweh has made the man to be sovereign, the master, the head over the woman. Hence, the traditional marriage vow, being Biblically oriented, contains the promise of obedience to the husband as long as they both shall live.

The amazing thing is that the woman came from the man. She was made from a rib taken

out of his side. She was taken out of the man, fashioned as a female counterpart and then given back to the man for the purpose of them becoming one flesh. One was made two and then the **two were to become one**.

THE MAN'S ROLE

Yahweh made Adam, the man, first. The man was made in the image of Elohim (Gen. 1:26-27) and was given dominion over the earth and every living thing in it (Gen. 1:28). The woman was made second, made in the likeness of the man. She was to submit to his dominion, his authority.

Yahweh made man on the sixth day of creation finishing all the works of his hands on that day. Yahweh then rested on the seventh day, creating the seven day week; six days of labor and rest on the seventh. Yahshua reveals that man also was given dominion over the Sabbath rest, "And He said unto them, 'The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath: therefore the Son of man is Sovereign also of the Sabbath,'" Mk. 2:27-28.

The original intention was that man would take a wife and they would cleave together becoming one flesh. The original intention was that man would have dominion over Yahweh's creation, subdue it to his dominion, work with his hands for six days, entering into and bringing about rest on the seventh. This would have continued Yahweh's works bringing about stability, orderliness, peace, rest.

The man, the husband, the father, the sovereign was to love his wife, giving himself for her. He was to protect, provide for, esteem and honor her as the weaker vessel, yet as an heir together of the grace of life (1 Pet. 3:7).

Paul writes, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Messiah also loved the assembly, and gave Himself for it," Eph. 5:25. Herein is another great mystery for Adam was a type of Yahshua, "And so it is written, 'The first man Adam was made a living soul;' the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which



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is natural. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Sovereign from heaven,” 1 Cor. 15:45-47. “Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam’s transgression, **who (Adam) is the FIGURE (Gk. = tupos = type) of Him (Yahshua) that was to come,**” Ro. 5:14.

What had happened to Adam? Hadn’t Yahweh caused a deep sleep to fall on him, and as he slept, didn’t he take a rib, close the flesh and make a woman (Gen. 2:21-22)? That deep sleep was a type of death for Yahshua said concerning His friend Lazarus, “Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.” Then said His disciples, ‘Sovereign, if he sleep, he shall do well.’ (Howbeit Yahshua spake of his death: but they thought that He had spoken of taking of rest in sleep). Then said Yahshua unto them plainly, ‘Lazarus is dead,’” Jn. 11:11-14.

Yahshua, the last or second Adam, had a deep sleep (death) fall on Him. He was pierced in His side with a spear from which issued blood and water (Jn. 19:34). Blood is for the atoning of sin (Rev. 1:5). Water is symbolic of the Holy Spirit (Jn. 7:37-39).

Adam had a rib removed from his body from which his counterpart, the woman, a physical fleshly person, was made. Yahshua poured blood and water from His side from which His spiritual counterpart, His spiritual bride was to be made.

Just as Adam proclaimed, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh,” Gen. 2:23; Paul was inspired to write, “For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. 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. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Messiah and the Assembly,” Eph. 5:30-32.

How much fuller, richer, joyous and happy would our marriages be if the men would put themselves in the footsteps of Yahshua, follow His example, being willing to give of

themselves and patiently bearing all things for the family’s sake, especially the wife’s. Having no sin, no guile, when reviled, reviling not again, suffering, but threatening not (1 Pet. 2:21-23)?

THE WIFE’S ROLE

Part of the wife’s role has already been touched on somewhat. The wife is to submit to, be under authority to her own husband (Eph. 5:22, Col. 3:18-19, 1 Pet. 3:1). But there is so much more in a wife’s relationship. She is a help for him. She is to aid him in his endeavors. She should comfort him even in failure.

The wife shows submission by taking the husband’s family name, leaving her’s behind. Together they produce children which build and continue the man’s house and name.

The woman is the man’s help meet. There is even more to the word “meet” than has already been introduced. The word “meet” comes from the Hebrew “neged” which, in turn, comes from the primitive root word “nagad.” “Nagad” means to front, i.e. to announce (always by word of mouth to one present), spec. to expose, predict, explain, praise, certify, declare, messenger, report, rehearse, etc.

Once again we come to the great mystery for the assembly, because the assembly is to be the bride of Messiah, “For I am jealous over you with pious jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Messiah,” 2 Cor. 11:2. (See also Rev. 19:7-9).

The assembly must submit to and trust in her husband faithfully. She must boldly stand out, announcing, explaining, exposing, declaring, praising her espoused husband. She must declare Who He is, what He has done, what He is doing, and what He will do. She must announce with joy His glorious coming kingdom, His soon glorious appearing.

If the wives would take a lesson from the assembly’s example, looking to their



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husbands, supporting, encouraging and helping them, how successful our marriages could become. The saying goes, “Behind every successful man there is a successful woman.” But even if a man is not successful, if a woman would do her part, then her judgment would be fair, just, positive and her own life successful.

The wives should especially proclaim their husbands to their children, so that the children themselves would look up to their father. There would be healthier, happier, more fulfilling marriages and homes. Families would be closer in association. . The marriages of today’s world are a travesty, to say the least.

Interestingly, the Hebrew words for man and woman are אִישׁ (ish, man) and אִשָּׁה (isha, woman). They share two letters ש and א, while woman contains the ה and man contains the י. If we combine these two letters together we get the Hebrew word יה (Yah) which is the shortened version of Yahweh’s name. The relationship of the man and woman should be as close as the relationship of Yahweh the Father and Yahshua the Son.

The two remaining letters in each word are אש (esh), which is the Hebrew word for fire. Fire is a symbol for zeal. With Yahweh in a marriage, the zeal is for each other, but without Him in the marriage there is only a fire that destroys.

THE COVENANT

The marriage between man and woman is a type of the marriage between Yahshua and the assembly. Marriage is a covenant relationship. It is a covenant entered into for life. Marriage requires commitment. Yahweh called Israel out of Egypt, proposed a covenant with them and the people accepted, “All that Yahweh hath spoken we will do,” Ex. 19:8 (last part). The covenant was a marriage (Jer. 3:14), but the people had no heart to fulfil their part (Dt. 5:29).

The new covenant is an espousal to Yahshua. We must take care that our heart is in the right place, set on the right things and on an incorruptible Messiah; for Paul warns of corruption (2 Cor. 11:3-4). We must take warning from Israel who corrupted into harlotry (idolatry, which is a type of adultery) and from this present evil world which serves a corrupted, idolatrous Messiah. Is there any wonder that so many marriages end up in divorce?

One of the meanings of “nagad” is “rehearse.” Our marriages are a rehearsal for the marriage to Yahshua. If we can make a lifelong success of our marriages today, how much better will we be able to serve Yahshua for all eternity?

If we would all prepare our minds and hearts beforehand, setting our heart to fulfil the promise (covenant) that we make during the marriage ceremony, to make our marriage a marriage of success and endurance, then fewer people would get married or our marriages would be much more successful.

The promise that the man agrees to is to “Take the woman for his lawfully wedded wife. To love her, protect her and provide for her for better or worse, in sickness and in health, in good times or bad, so long as we both do live.” The woman promises to, “Take this man for her lawfully wedded husband. To love him and to submit to him for better or for worse, in sickness and in health, in good times or bad, so long as they both do live.”

This is a covenant, a promise, a contract that is not only bound by men, but especially by Yahweh, whether the people are believers or not. The gravity of the situation should be made clear to all parties involved. It is binding in the eyes of Yahweh for life. Whether or not man takes it seriously, Yahweh does. Each will have to be judged according to proper fulfilling thereof.

Even though man has become so corrupt in these last days that his word, promise, covenant is meaningless, Yahweh intends to



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judge our sincerity. One of the best places for us to prove the value of our own words is in the marriage covenant.

YAHWEH CONDEMNS DIVORCE

Yahweh warned long ago against the sins of fornication, adultery and divorce. We read in the book of Malachi, “And this have ye done again, covering the altar of Yahweh 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. Yet ye say, ‘Wherefore?’ Because Yahweh 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**,” 2:13-14.

When we make a marriage covenant with the wife of our youth, does Yahweh regard it? You bet He does! He regards that covenant as one of the most important covenants in one’s life. An interesting thing about the word “companion” is that it comes from the Hebrew root word “chabar” which means to join (self together), be compact, couple (together), have fellowship with, league. Truly the word “companion” is another way to describe the closeness of the marital relationship.

Yahweh continues in Mal. 2, “And did not He make one?” (v. 5). (This is referring to the statement that they twain would become one flesh.) Yet had He the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a seed of Elohim. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. For Yahweh, the Elohim of Israel, saith that He hateth putting away (divorce): ‘for one covereth violence with his garment,’ saith Yahweh of Hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.” (v.v. 15-16).

Malachi is speaking in the same way that Paul was when he wrote, “But to the rest speak I, not the Master: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell

with him, let him not put her away. And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him. For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: **else were your children unclean; but now are they holy**,” 1 Cor. 7:12-14.

Obviously, Yahweh is looking for stable marriages and families so that He can produce a holy people, a seed of Elohim.

YAHSHUA CONDEMNS DIVORCE

Yahshua also condemned divorce for He said, “It hath been said, ‘Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement:’ but I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication (sex sins), causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced comitteth adultery,” Mt. 5:31-21.

In another place we find, “And the Pharisees came to Him, and asked Him, ‘Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife?’ testing Him, and He answered and said unto them, ‘What did Moses command you? And they said, Moses permitted a man to write a bill of divorcement, and to put her away.’ And Yahshua answered and said unto them, ‘For the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept; but from the beginning of the creation Elohim made them male and female. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and they two shall be one flesh; so then they are no more two, but one flesh. What, therefore, Elohim hath joined together, let not man put asunder.’ And in the house his disciples asked Him again of the same matter. And He saith unto them, ‘Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery,’” Mk. 10:2-12.

Once again in Lk. 16:18 He said, “Whosoever putteth away his wife, and



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marrieth another, committeth adultery; and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband, committeth adultery.”

Truly, the Father and Son agree (as always) that divorce is a deadly action, an action of destruction. Adultery, fornication, divorce, etc. are actions that sound the death knell to a marriage, the covenant, one’s word, one’s promises, a family and even children. How many people in our day and age have been taught how important, marriage is and how serious and destructive divorce can be?

THE FAMILY UNIT

The father, mother and children comprise what is called the “nuclear family.” What happens when atomic particles which are bound by nuclear forces are broken up? In an uncontrolled environment a tremendous explosion occurs which is devastating to a large area. Even long after the explosion is over the area affected remains “hot” and polluted with deadly radioactivity which can endure to tens of thousands of years.

Even when atoms are split in a controlled environment the resultant radioactivity and its waste is harmful and deadly for thousands of years. Man has tapped into an energy that he really does not know what to do with.

The break-up of the nuclear family is no less devastating on the people’s lives involved. Husband and wife suffer traumatically and the children even more. The consequences are obvious as all studies indicate.

Yahweh has put the atomic and nuclear structure together. Man should not be breaking it asunder. Yahweh has brought the man and woman together in a nuclear family. Man should not be breaking it asunder. The disaster in both areas is quite obvious for all to see.

TRUE LOVE

Yahweh created the physical creation according to a tremendous knowledge that still mystifies the greatest of scientists. Creation is

held together by certain specific forces. The law of gravity is considered the weakest binding force, yet look at the awesome power of it. Gravity holds the earth, other planets, suns and galaxies together. The next greatest binding force is electromagnetism. This force holds the electrons in place around atoms. The third and greatest binding force is nuclear power. The combination of these three forces is what holds our world together giving us the stability and form as we know it.

The force that binds families together is love. But love is so elusive to the human race. Most simply do not understand just what love really is. Just what is love? The Apostle Paul gives us the answer, “Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if *there be* any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore **love is the fulfilling of the law,**” Ro. 13:8-10.

Love has to do with fulfilling the law of Yahweh. Love takes effort and sacrifice. It take a determination to be true no matter the consequences. Paul reveals more about love, “Charity (love) suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity (love) envieth not; charity (love) vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity (love) never faileth,” 1 Cor. 13:4-8.

Another man put it this way, “There are those who say they love chicken. It is not so. If they really loved the chicken, they would not kill it for food. What they intend to say is they love themselves and they use the chicken for self-gratification. The word ‘love’ ought to be used only as its Hebrew root implies: אהב (EHAV), I



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will give. When I care more about another than I do about myself, when I'm willing to give rather than to take, when the other's happiness means more than my own, then I really love that person. The love test is simple: do you want to do more for him/her than you want her/him to do for you?"

What man is there who can fulfil the royal law of love? The answer is no one is able to fulfil it of his own strength and power. It is impossible with man, but with Yahweh all things are possible, because Yahweh is love (1 Jn. 4:8, last part).

That is why we need to turn to Yahweh. That is why we need to turn from rejecting the knowledge of Yahweh and learn, with His help, to walk in it.

There is a tremendous and glorious purpose for marriage. Marriage is for the purpose of learning how to love, how to make a commitment and follow through, how to dwell in the royal law of Yahweh. Marriage is for the

purpose of raising up holy seed (children). It is a type, a forerunner of the marriage that will take place between Yahshua and the assembly. It is a training ground in preparation for that wedding.

The statistics reveal that if we had healthier, happier and more stable marriages; our social ills, as we know them today, would be virtually non-existent. Our encouragement is to search the Scriptures for the true knowledge related to marriage. Apply that knowledge in your present marriage or prepare yourself if you are planning on marriage. After all, "The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge," Prov. 1:7, first part. When people reject knowledge, they reject Yahweh. Let's seek after knowledge. Let's seek after the counsels of Yahweh and live.

By Jerry Healan

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