Basic Training

Love and Marriage Were God's Ideas Part 2 Inseparable Love

Rom 8:35-39

35 Who shall **separate** us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril,

or sword?

36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.
38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

I. Introduction

- A. Review
- In our Wednesday Bible Study on February 1, we introduced a topic of a series that we will be covering on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights called, "Basic Training Series—The Importance of Truth."
- Last week as part of Basic Training, we spoke about Love and Marriage Were God's Ideas, part 1.
- I introduced the subject as one that does not need to be redefined but rediscovered, so we looked at the definition of marriage given all the way back in the beginning of the Bible in the second chapter.
- 4. Genesis 2:24 says a man shall leave his father and mother and join to his wife and they shall be one flesh.
- Jesus restated that teaching to the crowds he preached to. The Apostle Paul restated that teaching to the churches he wrote to.
- 6. And in the very end of time, we see God will still be emphasizing the same theme of

marriage in heaven at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

- 7. We also mentioned how that because God is love, God set the example of the greatest kind of love. That being: willing to give sacrificially.
- 8. And husbands are to love their wives as Christ as loved the church. Wives are also to love their husband. Sacrificial love is at the foundation of marriage.
- B. Not a fairy tale
- We are not just taking about that expression of love that makes you giddy, makes you smile, makes you chuckle, makes you stare into their face, makes you feel that other things don't matter.
- There is a kind of love that brings something deeper than smiles and chuckles. We are talking about a love that brings a sense of peace, security, contentment,

satisfaction, happiness, and something even deeper than happiness—joy.

- This kind of love is not a fairy tale, but is a description of the inseparable love of God to us that we are to imitate.
- c. Broken love
- Unfortunately, it is not uncommon to see a different standard for relationships in our world.
- In a time of redefining things, God's standard of love seems to be missing in our world in many relationships. Some feel that love is only the stuff of dreams, movies and fairy tales.
- 3. What was their dream became a night mare; not something to embrace, but something to get away from fast.
- It didn't fix them, it broke them. It didn't make them feel pure, but dirty. It didn't fill them, it left them empty.

- 5. Why does it happen that way when God intends for us to find that kind of love through Him and in His way. His idea of relationship includes all those desirable things and much more.
- 6. He has a pure and inseparable love for us to enjoy.
- II. Love that fulfils and lasts
- A. In God
- Let us start at the starting line—that is by seeking God's love first and foremost.
- 2. We CAN look forward to a time of deep intimacy in our relationship with God, from the start of each day:

Ps 5:3 My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.

3. And when we seek Him, we will find Him: Isa 30:21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye *in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.*

- 4. When we listen, we will hear. When we look, we will behold. When we reach out, there is a hand that touches us. When we lean in, there is a shoulder to lean on.
- 5. In fact, when we lean on Jesus, we will feel Him lightening our load.
- 6. Look at how that is described in these two verses:

<u>1 Peter 5:7</u> Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

<u>Matt 11:28-30</u>

28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

- 7. You who are weary and tired from the cares of life, He wants to carry, not only your burdens, but you too.
- 8. And when He picks us up in His loving arms, we just want Him to hold us and never let go. And when we feel His love, we wonder if is it just a dream? Can it be true? Is it really happening to me?
- 9. And then when we wake up, we find it IS real.
- It is not a dream. It is true and is happening to me! The joy remains. The delight is greater than we expected.
- 11. It makes me want to return. I want Him more...and more and more.
- 12. It is euphoria, it is delight that pleases.
 There is no bad taste in the mouth because it is of the highest, greatest, most pleasing, taste of anything.
- That is why the writer said, O, taste and see that the Lord is good.
 Ps 34:8 O taste and see that the LORD is

good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

- B. In my mate
- But there are times when, even as wonderful as that experience of God's love for us is, we may still long for a pure human experience of love.
- 2. We want a physical hand to hold or face to behold. We want to see the twinkle in the eyes that glimmer with a desire for us.
- 3. That is because God created man, and shortly after said of him, *It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.*
- 4. When a person pursues the pure love that God created us to enjoy, and not the perverted substitute called lust, God will provide that fulfilling and lasting love.
- c. In purity
- 1. That is why God said, "Flee also youthful lusts."

Listen to how Paul explained this to new church members in the city of Corinth, a city that was known for immorality:
 1 Cor 6:18-20

18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

19 What? know ye not that your **body is the temple of the Holy Ghost** which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore **glorify God in your body**, and in your spirit, which are God's.

3. Like our modern culture, Paul was dealing with a culture that lacked moral standards. So when believers came into the church, they needed teaching about what kind of physical relationship was acceptable to God.

Heb 13:4 Marriage is honourable in all, and

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the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

- In fact, while our culture may call it freedom, immorality is actually what leaves people feeling, bound, hurt, broken and empty.
- 5. God created us for love—but a love made in His image. Love that flows out of purity, and love that lasts.
- 6. Love between us and Him, and if we have a mate, love that flows out of purity between a man and a woman.
- 7. The man and woman relationship of love is described as a help meet, like we discussed last week.

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, meaning **our mate is a corresponding opposite**.

8. And it is a love that flows in both directions.

- 9. They might be opposites, but opposites attract because they provide what is lack in the soul of the other.
- D. In oneness
- And when they come together, they become one. Last week we read the foundational verse on marriage in Genesis 2:24:

Gen 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

2. And then we read Jesus quoting it: Mark 10:7-9

7 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife;
8 And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh.
9 What therefore God hath joined together, let not man **put asunder**.

3. Two individuals become one flesh that God does not want any man to "put asunder."

- "Put asunder" comes from the Greek word,
 "Chorizo," (kho-rid'-zo), which means to
 separate, divide, depart from a person.
- Jesus said do not separate from that Godordained oneness because when two become one flesh in the act of marriage, part of your soul is intermixed with their soul, and part of their soul is intermixed with your soul.
- 6. That is also why marital love is exclusive, forsaking all others and cleaving to that individual only.
- 7. Marriage has no room for more than the partner in that exclusive intimate relationship.
- It is a God-designed unity that is not meant to be redefined.
- 9. It is a holy unity of purity and permanence.
- E. Inseparable

- And we see that parallel of the oneness in the love between man and woman is modeled in the love of Christ for us.
- 2. When we say Jesus loves me this I know, it is the kind of love that does not come apart or separate.
- 3. The same Greek word Chroizo that Jesus used about the permanence of marriage, is found again here in Romans 8:35 translated "separate:"

Rom 8:35-39

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powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to **separate** us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- 4. Now that is the kind of love that makes us feel giddy, makes us smile, puts lasting joy on the inside, makes us feel pure and holy, because it is God's love.
- It is the kind of love God has for us, and is the kind of love he intends for the marital relationship. A love that does not separate.
- 6. You may want to give up on the world's cheap substitute for love, called lust. But don't give up on God's pure love that He created us to long for.
- F. Called to singleness?
- 1. In a message on marital love, it is important to note that not everyone is called to a

marital relationship, and that is OK—God makes it OK.

- You can ask those who feel they have a calling to singleness for this stage in their lives and they will describe how God can join with them in a very special union who makes His love and presence feel very real to them.
- 3. And the Apostle Paul, who was also single, said those who are called to singleness have a special opportunity to serve the Lord even beyond what others can do:

1 Cor 7:32 But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord:

- And verse 34 adds: "The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit..."
- 5. Singleness offers an opportunity for a very special devotion to the Lord and to His service that is by no means something less.

- Jesus spoke of people who have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake, a reference to a kind of singleness where one devotes themselves to God's kingdom.
- III. Conclusion: Becoming the bride of Christ
- A. The bride must get ready
- So this morning we have talked about the inseparable love between God and us, and what He intends for our marriage.
- In conclusion, I want to return to something
 I spoke about last week, the bride of Christ
 and the marriage supper of the Lamb.
- 3. And it is interesting that while the Book of Revelation is describing the great tribulation happening on the earth, in heaven, there is a marriage supper celebration going on between Christ and His church:

Rev 19:7-9 7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give

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honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and **his wife hath made herself ready**.

8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for **the fine linen is the righteousness of saints**. 9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

- 4. That is a picture of Jesus being joined to His bride, the saints, the group of called out ones referred to as the church.
- 5. 1 Thessalonians 4 and 1 Corinthians 15 tell of a day when Jesus will make an appearance in the clouds above the earth, there will be a loud trumpet blast, and Jesus' church, whether dead in the grave or among the living, will in an instant, receive a transformed, immortal body, and will rise into the air to forever be with the Lord.

- [slide] Once the church arrives in heaven, two events will occur: (1) the Judgment seat of Christ (1 Cor 3:13, 2 Cor 5:10) where Jesus will give out rewards to His saints according to how they have served Him, and (2) the marriage of the Lamb.
- 7. Once the saved leave this earth, they will never be separated from the Lord.
- 8. That is why it is so important to be anchored in the church and giving your all to serve the Lord in these last days.
- Jesus said no one knows just when that day will come, so be ready always: Matt 24:36 But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.
- 10. He spoke of signs of the end being fulfilled in the last generation, and many recognize that we are seeing many of those being fulfilled in our generation—like earthquakes and pandemics, wars and rumors of wars.

- ^{11.} That is why we must get ready, for *Luke 12:40 Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.*
- 12. The bride must make herself ready and be clothed with the righteousness of the saints as we read in Revelation 19.
- B. Be born again
- I want to conclude with looking at how a person can become part of the bride of Christ, how they can have the righteousness of the saints and how they can be ready to be caught up to heaven with Him with the rest of the saved of all the ages.
- If you want to be prepared to enter the kingdom of God you must be born of water and Spirit:

John 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

- The parallel passage to that is Acts 2:38 Acts 2:38-39
 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.
- If you take the time to journey through scripture, you will see that all the verses that speak about **being saved**, or believing and obeying the gospel, **can be summarized** by those verses we just read.
- 5. [slide] (1) express faith in the gospel message, that Jesus, the God-man, gave His life for us. Then obey the gospel by (2) turning from your sin, and (3) being baptized in the name of Jesus, (4) then Jesus will fill you with His Spirit.
- 6. That is when your name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

- 7. This is who will be part of the bride of Christ, who will be caught up to meet Him in the air, who will be part of the marriage supper of the Lamb, who will receive rewards for their labors for God, and who will dwell with Him for ever in the New Jerusalem, the new Heaven, and New Earth.
- 8. That is why human marriage is paralleled to the love Christ has for His church.
- Jesus gave Himself for the church and will dwell with the church through eternity in a marriage made in heaven.
- ^{10.} So first, get in the bride of Christ.
- 11. And second, work on making your earthly marriage a parallel of that beautiful and holy relationship between Christ and the church.
- ^{12.} That is the picture of inseparable love that God intends us to live with.