

THE FIRST WEDDING

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May the truth of God's Word rest firmly in your heart and may He grant you the courage and boldness to speak His transcendent truths to a world living in darkness.

Resting in His truth,
Rebecca

****To encourage you to be a light in the darkness, I invite you to listen to my weekly podcast, One Little Candle, at <https://christianpodcastcommunity.org> or at <https://onelittlecandlepodcast.com> or on any of your favorite podcast listening platforms.**



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This book is dedicated to the parents and grandparents who are working to instill in their children and grandchildren a healthy fear of the Lord and a knowledge and love of the truth of God.



"Teach me Your way, O LORD; that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name. "

Psalm 86:11. ESV



Have you ever been to a wedding? If so, have you ever given any thought to the significance of a wedding, or what it means?

As I'm sure you know, no two weddings are the same. Some take place in a church, others outdoors, or maybe even in a house.

In some weddings, people dress up more than others. Some wear tuxedos and fancy wedding gowns and others may wear jeans and cowboy boots.

Some are big, and some are small, but the differences between these kinds of weddings are really unimportant because God doesn't care how much we dress up or how many people we invite to our wedding or even if we get married outdoors instead of in a church.



What matters to God is the reason why people get married in the first place and the purpose behind the wedding ceremony.

So we're going to take a look back at the very first wedding that happened over 6,000 years ago in the most beautiful garden in the world, the garden of Eden. It was the most beautiful garden to have ever existed!

You could say that this was the most important wedding of all time because it was the very first marriage; a marriage in which God gave the example for all mankind to follow forever as to what a marriage is about and how a marriage should be.



But before we talk about that very first wedding, we need to go back a little and talk about what happened before that.

The Bible tells us, "So God created human beings in His own image. In the image of God He created them; male and female He created them." Genesis 1:27.

God created the earth and all that is in it, including mankind. Mankind is the most special of all because man, of all God's created creatures, is specially created in God's image.

God made the first man, Adam, from the dust of the ground and breathed life into him. Even though Adam had God and the animals with him in the garden, God wanted him to have a partner that was more like Adam.

So God caused Adam to fall into a very deep sleep and he took a rib from Adam's side and from that rib God made Adam the perfect companion, Eve, the very first woman.

God's Word tells us this, "Then the LORD God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.'"

Genesis 2:18

"So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the LORD God took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the opening." Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib..."

Genesis 2:21-22a.



Why, one might ask, did God use one of Adam's ribs? Couldn't He have just started with two brand new ribs without using one of Adam's? Of course He could! He is God! He can do anything!

Let us never forget though, that everything God does is good and wise and right and He had a very good reason for using one of Adam's ribs to create Eve.

God created Eve from a rib from Adam's side, so that she would be a part of Adam, for fellowship with Adam, and to be a “helper suitable” for him. Eve was designed to complement Adam, to work together with him. To complement someone in this way means to complete or bring to perfection.



God also did it to indicate that Adam and Eve would be one flesh, with Eve standing by Adam's side as an equal. Equal doesn't mean that Adam and Eve were the same. As a man and a woman, they were different in many ways. They were equal in the sense that they were both created in God's image and they were equal heirs in Christ's salvation.

"There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Galatians 3:28



So now we've come to the marriage "ceremony", the wedding.
....and he brought her to the man."
Genesis 2:22b.

That's it! That was the wedding ceremony! God brought Eve to Adam.

Even though this marriage ceremony wasn't filled with lots of fanfare, it was still probably the most beautiful and special wedding ever because it was never about the wedding ceremony itself but instead it was all about God's design for marriage.

Nope! No fancy wedding gown for Eve. No guests at the wedding or a father to walk Eve down the aisle to meet her soon to be husband. Adam and Eve didn't have any parents. They, along with being the very first people ever created, would eventually become the very first parents.

One might say that it was God who walked Eve down the aisle to meet her new husband. Of course there wasn't an aisle but maybe there was a garden path that God walked her down when He brought her to Adam. Either way, it was God Himself who presented Eve to Adam.

And what was Adam's response? He was thrilled! "Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.'" Genesis 2:22-23





"And the Lord blessed their union saying, 'This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.'" Genesis 2:24

You see, God performed the act in this way to show that the woman was to complement and complete the man in the unity of marriage. Adam was now complete because he was united with Eve.

From then on he was to love her and protect her as his own soul. They were to love and be faithful to one another forever.

This first marriage was to be a lasting example for all marriages to come.



One man

One woman

According to the Bible, God's design for marriage is :

1. Marriage is only between a man and a woman. It can never be anything else. It's not between people and animals and it's not between people of the same sex such as a woman and a woman or a man and a man.
2. Marriage is only between one man and one woman. Yes, there were some men in the Bible later on that married more than one woman but God's Word never gives approval of these types of marriages. In fact, throughout the Bible we see the troubles that came to these men who had more than one wife.



Here's something else very important. Marriage is sacred. It is sacred because marriage is much more than just a man and a woman sharing a life together and making each other happy.

Marriage is also a symbol of or something that represents Jesus Christ and the body of believers known as the church. The church is made up of those who have repented of their sin and trusted in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and have received eternal life.



According to the Bible, Christ, the Bridegroom, has sacrificially and lovingly chosen the church to be His bride.

"For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault."

Ephesians 5:25-27.

Jesus Christ is holy and so the church is to be holy and because of that, marriage, which is a representation of Christ and His church, is to be holy too.

Sadly, when it comes to marriage, there are people in the world that do not honor the truth of God's Word as clearly shown in the Bible. They have chosen to decide for themselves what they think marriage should be.

But it's extremely important to always remember this: Marriage isn't what we think it should be, it's what God says it is. Period!

Even though it has been thousands of years since the first marriage, God's design and purpose for marriage has not and will not change because God is an unchanging God.

When asked about marriage, Jesus said, "...But God made them male and female from the beginning of creation. This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife and the two are united into one. Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together."

Mark 10:6-9.



Marriage is God's gift to us. God made us and God made marriage and because God is the one who designed marriage, He is the only one who gets to say what it is and His Word says that it's a lifelong commitment between one man and one woman to love and be faithful to each other forever.

We can trust God's rules for marriage and relationships because He gives us these rules for our good; knowing that when we follow His design for something like marriage; that is what will bring us true peace, happiness, and joy in our lives.

So give thanks and praise to our all-wise and unchanging God because everything that He does is good and right. And that includes His design for marriage.



A word to parents.

This book is written as an exceptional resource for you to be able to influence your precious children toward a mentally and spiritually healthy life as God intended them to live.

The book's focus is to assist you in helping your child to understand God's design for marriage.

Traditional marriage, marriage between one man and one woman, which is the fundamental building block for family as well as the foundation for a healthy, productive, and thriving society, is under heavy attack. This attack on traditional marriage is a direct and deliberate attack on God's perfect created order.

Through LGBTQ ideologies, a war has been declared on our children and it shows no sign of letting up. The lies that are being taught in favor of same sex marriage are directly aimed at our children at a younger and younger age. This is why it's imperative that we begin at as young an age as possible to instill a godly perspective about marriage in them because it's much easier to instill God's truth from the start, than to try to undo the lies that they have been told.

We must get to our children with God's truth about marriage first, before the world gets to them with it's lies. These lies are becoming increasingly complex and would seem very convincing were it not for knowing ahead of time God's definitive stance on marriage. If our children have God's Word in regard to marriage firmly entrenched in their hearts and minds they will be able to identify the lies by screening them through a biblical lens.

It's also extremely helpful for our children to know that when it comes to marriage, the state is not the one that defines marriage. Marriage was created by God. And because God Himself instituted marriage, He is the only one who gets to define it.

I encourage you to be diligent to remain steadfast, vigilant, in teaching your children the truth when it comes to the sinfulness of same sex marriage.

Strive to find ways to expose them to positive examples of marriages being lived out according to God's design and educate them by reading books like this with your child(ren). Pray over them and with them.

Finally, point them in the right direction by consistently pointing them to Christ, our one and only model for how we should live.

"Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear Me and keep all My commands always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever!"

Deuteronomy 5:29 NIV

Recommended Resources

Books

"Sacred Marriage " by Gary Thomas

"What Does the Bible Really Teach About Homosexuality?"
by Kevin DeYoung

"Is God Anti-gay?" by Sam Alberry

"Can You be Gay and Christian?" by Michael L. Brown

"Outlasting the Gay Revolution. Where Homosexual
Activism is Really Going and How to Turn the Tide" by
Michael L. Brown

Online Resources/Sermons

Focus on the Family God's Design for Marriage

Marriage, God's Design. Alistair Begg

Assault on God's Design for Marriage. by John MacArthur

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Rebecca Berschwinger's passion has always been for reaching the next generation with the truth of God's Word.

Along with being a writer, including being a regular contributing writer for Fruits of Faith Ministries, Rebecca is also the creator and host of One Little Candle Christian Podcast; a member of the Christian Podcast Community.

Several years ago, Rebecca responded to God's call to go forth and empower and encourage believers to know not just what they believe, but why they believe and to stand firm in God's transcendent truths. She has had the privilege of teaching Christian Worldview classes to high-schoolers along with creating and teaching Bible studies to the male and female inmates at her local county jail.

She has served as a crisis pregnancy counselor for the Alpha Pregnancy Center and most recently as a Discipleship Coach for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

Along with studying Systemic Theology and for her certificate in Christian Apologetics, Rebecca enjoys her role as a wife, mom of four, and Nana to six precious grandchildren; all who live in upstate New York. In addition to spending time with her family, Rebecca also enjoys reading, writing, cooking, camping, and gardening.