

SHOULD MARRIAGE MATTER TO ME?

Hebrews 13:5 (NIV) *“Marriage should be honored by all...”*

_____ designed marriage.

We all grew up in a certain level of _____, and we carry that into our marriage.

There is no such thing as a _____ marriage.

Malachi 2:13-16 (NIV) *“Another thing you do: You flood the Lord’s altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer pays attention to your offering and accepts them with pleasure from your hands. You ask, “Why?” It is because the Lord is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant. Has not the Lord made them one? In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth. “I hate divorce,” says the Lord God...So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith.”*

God doesn’t say He hates the _____ of divorce. What He hates is what divorce _____.

Genesis 2:18-20 (NIV) *“The Lord God said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.’ Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found.”*

Genesis 2:21-25 (NIV) *“So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man’s ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, ‘This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called “woman,” for she was taken out of man.’ For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.”*

The very first picture of marriage is a _____.

The marriage relationship is intended to be _____ and significant.

The man and woman pledge themselves to one another, and God is the _____ of that agreement.

Fulfillment has taken on greater _____ and value than obedience.

What if God designed marriage to make us _____ more than to make us _____?

You have your best chance of happiness when you stay _____ to the covenant union of your marriage. If you will stay committed to each other, and cherish one another, you have set the table for happiness in your relationship.

Should marriage matter to me?

_____, because it matters to _____!