

# Sermon Notes

## Marriage & Message

1 Corinthians 7:1-2

August 2, 2015

### Introduction & Review

Marriage is a big deal. Marriage matters!

#### *Marriage & Wonder—*

We should possess an ongoing wonder in and of marriage instead of drinking the dull sauce of our day which is simply wondering *about* marriage, as in, what's the big deal. Our wonder of marriage comes from the fact that the Bible is a story about marriage, and history is a story of marriage.

#### *Marriage & Mystery—*

Mystery in the Bible reveals the purpose of God in and through the person of Jesus. Christ's coming has made sense—being the Light and shining the light—on what the Lord was doing in the establishment of marriage.

In this we see that marriage, as a great mystery, is declaring the Gospel. Marriage speaks of Christ and the Church. How? *Marriage displays love for sinners*

#### *Marriage displays faithfulness*

#### *Marriage is a community matter; it is public*

### **Marriage is a Mega-Mystery**

Part of the greatness of this mystery is that marriage is bigger than you or me or any of us together. Marriage is actually greater than our individual marriages.

#### *This is seen from the beginning—*

#### *This is seen at the end—*

#### *This is seen now, in the middle—*

To be simple: marriage is bigger than any of us, and marriage has not be established for our own personal fulfillment and pleasure first of all. There is to be great pleasure in marriage, but meeting “your own personal needs” is not the primary purpose of marriage. This is where we find so many marital problems. Some are looking to “get into” marriage in order to see what they can “get out” of marriage, and they end up “getting out” of marriage.

### **The Crux of the Matter—Marriage & the Cross**

Marriage declares Christ and the Church when the cross is at the center of our marriages, and this should be true for every Christian marriage. Having the cross at the center of our marriages is difficult, and this is where the reality hits, the reality of denying oneself and serving another.

When this is happening, the true Gospel is being proclaimed...and the world has nothing like this!

### **Marriage is Trinitarian...more than one in unity**

We are essentially social beings. We are made in the image of God, and God is Triune (one God, eternally existing in three Persons). The Trinity is alike with distinctions.

So too in marriage. We are married to someone who is like us and yet not like us. Like us, we are both made in the image of God; unlike us, in that we are different, there are distinctions, and often wondrously so.

There is a kind of sameness and there are great differences.

And God the Son sought His bride. He was made like us—and the Word became flesh—and He was wondrously different from us for He was our Redeemer.

### **It is not good for the man to be alone (Genesis 2:18)**

What kind of a statement is this?

What kind of aloneness is this?

