

“As the Family Goes...”

Genesis 1:24-31

Most of us would agree, “As the family goes, so goes the church. And as the church goes, so goes the nation.” We will do well to often revisit God’s Word about the family. It is the first “institution” put into place by God to civilize and order our lives. Yet we have more divorces, broken homes, abuse and violence than at any other time in our history. Consider...

I. The **ORIGIN** of the family.

(Notice the progression in God’s creation:)

- A. God created THE EARTH OUT OF NOTHING (Genesis 1:1)
- B. God created THE MAN OUT OF THE EARTH (Genesis 2:7)
- C. God created THE WOMAN OUT OF THE MAN (Genesis 2:21-22a)
- D. God created THE INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE (Genesis 2:22b, 24)

II. The **NATURE** of the family.

(Consider the ideal family from a biblical perspective:)

- A. God ordained MAN AS THE HEAD OF THE WOMAN. (Genesis 3:16b; I Corinthians 11:3; Ephesians 5:23)
- B. God ordained the WOMAN AS THE COUNTERPART OF THE MAN. (Genesis 2:18-20; I Corinthians 11:9-12)
- C. God ordained that CHILDREN SHOULD COME FROM THE UNION OF HUSBAND AND WIFE. (Genesis 1:27-28; Psalm 127:3)

III. The **AUTHORITY** of the family.

(How should family members relate and function toward each other?)

- A. GOD’S HOLY WORD is His INFALLIBLE AUTHORITY for the family. (Psalm 19:7, 9, 11; II Timothy 3:15-16)
- B. GOD’S HOLY SPIRIT is His INTERPRETIVE AUTHORITY for the family. (John 14:26; 16:13)

CONCLUSION. God’s ideal for the family is: ONE MAN + ONE WOMAN UNITED IN COVENANT MARRIAGE + ONE OR MORE NATURAL OR ADOPTED CHILDREN, ALL OF WHOM LIVE TOGETHER WITHIN GOD’S STRUCTURE OF AUTHORITY.

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