

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2017

**MORNING MESSAGE**

“The War on Truth: Marriage”

Genesis 2:18-25

I. THE INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE

A. Marriage was instituted by God; it was His idea; He initiated and established marriage

1. Genesis 2:18, “And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone”
2. Genesis 2:22, “And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man”
3. Genesis 2:24, “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife”

B. I am not alone in my interpretation

1. Jerry Falwell, “If we take the Bible seriously, we have to conclude that marriage was instituted by God”
2. Theodore Epp, “God instituted marriage as the divinely willed and approved state for man and woman”
3. John Phillips, “Marriage is ordained of God. The whole idea originated with God”

II. THE INDIVIDUALS OF MARRIAGE

A. Marriage is between a man and a woman

1. The first man to be married was Adam
  - a. Genesis 1:27, “So God created man in his own image”
2. The first woman to be married was Eve
  - a. Genesis 3:20, “And Adam called his wife’s name Eve”

B. This is ground zero for the war on truth

1. As the family goes, so goes the nation
2. Michael Brown, “There is nothing more important for the long-term stability of a society than healthy marriages and healthy families”

III. THE INTENT OF MARRIAGE

A. The intent of marriage is three-fold

1. The intent of partnership
  - a. The first thing in the Bible that was said to be “not good” was for a man to be alone; “not good” does not mean evil, but not complete
2. The intent of procreation
  - a. The first command to the married couple was, “Be fruitful and multiply”
  - b. Genesis 4:1, “Adam knew his wife, and she bare Cain”; “knew” means to have an intimate, personal relationship
3. The intent of permanence
  - a. A man is to “leave his father and mother”; “leave” means to abandon or give up
  - b. A man is to “cleave unto his wife”; “cleave” means to stick like glue