

# MARRIAGE

Marriage is a covenant and as covenant people, we are expected to be faithful to our covenant vows, just like we know our covenant God is faithful to his covenant promises. Because it is a blood covenant, it is enforced until the death of the one who made it (Hebrews 9:16-17). That's why God hates divorce, according to Malachi 2:16. Therefore, in marriage, the man and woman become one (Genesis 2:24) and no one may separate them.

Matthew 19:5-6

*“and said, ‘For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh?’*

*Consequently they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.”*

There are very few legitimate reasons for divorce, with adultery being the obvious one.

Matthew 19:9

*“And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.”*

Marriage is supposed to be a picture of Jesus and the church, where the man is the head and the wife is submitted to Him; a picture of the body of Christ submitting to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:23-24

*“For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself {being} the Savior of the body.*

*But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives {ought to be} to their husbands in everything.”*

That's why women are to respect their husbands (Ephesians 5:33) and, when necessary, appeal to them in a quiet gentle manner. Meanwhile, men are to love their wives and receive and honor them as fellow heirs.

1 Peter 3:1-2

*“In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any {of them} are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives,*

*as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.”*

1 Peter 3:7

*“You husbands likewise, live with {your wives} in an understanding way, as with a weaker vessel, since she is a woman; and grant her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.”*