

**The New Testament Church**  
**BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW TEACHINGS**

**Sources and Quotes for a Biblical View of Marriage**

See also the PowerPoint slides that correspond to this teaching

Adams, Jay E., *Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage in the Bible*, Zondervan, 1980, p. 4.  
*God designed marriage as the foundational element of all human society. Before there was (formally speaking) a church, a school, a business instituted, God formally instituted marriage...*

Adams, *Marriage, Divorce...* p. 4  
*If marriage were of human origin, then human beings would have a right to set it aside. But since God instituted marriage, only He has the right to do so. He has told us that marriage will not be dispensed with until the life to come. Nor can marriage be regulated according to human whims. Marriage as an institution (which includes individual marriages, of course) is subject to the rules and regulations set down by God.*

Adams, *Marriage, Divorce...* p. 7  
*Marriage is bigger than and distinct from (though inclusive of the obligation of) sexual union. It is neither constituted nor dissolved by sexual relations.*

Jehle, Paul, *Dating vs. Courtship* – Plymouth Rock Foundation, 2001 – [www.plymrock.org](http://www.plymrock.org)

Kass, Amy A. and Leon R., *Wing to Wing, Oar to Oar: Readings on Courting and Marrying*, University of Notre Dame Press, 2000.

Adams, Jay E., *Christian Living in the Home*, Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing, 1972., pages 88-89  
*If it seems difficult for wives to obey God's commandment, let them consider that, by comparison to these words of Paul to husbands, submission is relatively simple. It is one thing to learn to submit to another. That is hard; it runs against the grain. We don't like to submit; the old man (or woman) within rebels. Yet by comparison to what Jesus Christ has required of their husbands, Christian wives have an easy lot. On the other side of the page is headship. He has told you, husbands, that you must exemplify His headship over the church. Think of that! It is one thing for the wife to exemplify the church in its relationship to Christ. That relationship ought to be perfect, but we all know that it is far from perfect. But the headship of Jesus Christ, in contrast to the faulty obedience of His church to Him, is perfect... That is the task that God has laid on your shoulders. It is plainly too much. The task is too great for sinful, weak human beings. You know that you cannot fulfill this commandment. It is only as the Spirit of God works in your life that you can begin to approximate the Lord's loving leadership over His church.*

Kennedy, D. James., *The Secret to a Happy Home*, 1987., pages 43-44; 46-47  
*Some years ago a man walked all the way from New York to California! At the end of his trek, reporters asked him if he had ever thought he wouldn't make it. 'Many times,' the man replied.*

*When they asked what had almost defeated him, he answered, 'Let me tell you. It wasn't the rushing traffic in the cities or the blaring horns and screeching brakes of cabs or trucks. It wasn't even those interminable Midwestern plains that just went on and on as if they would never end. Nor was it the ice-tipped mountains of the Rockies or the blazing sun over the desert. What almost defeated me over and over again was the sand in my shoes.'*

*Although this unheralded, seldom-discussed irritant is never mentioned as the reason for divorce, 'sand in the shoes' defeats many marriages. What is this irritating problem that erodes away the very foundation of a harmonious marital relationship? It is the abrasive sand of criticism. Criticism poisons the atmosphere of the home. Husbands and wives are afraid to say anything different or do anything special because a cutting word lies just beneath the surface, ready to lash out and cut them down. Marriage partners can no longer express love for their mates because of the rejection inherent in criticism. The bloom of love withers in an atmosphere of rejection, and divorce is often the result.... Faultfinding never accomplishes anything constructive. Criticism is sin because the faultfinder is trying to play God...*

*Some of you are saying, 'You mean I am never supposed to say anything critical about my husband or wife? The Bible deals with that, too. We are told, 'if a man is overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted'' (Galatians 6:1)... Some people suppose themselves to be spiritual because they can see the faults in others. They do not realize they are not acting like God; they are acting like the beasts of the jungle... How can you get rid of the sand of criticism in your marriage? How can you make the principle of 'what you say is what you get' work in a constructive way? First of all, get rid of all resentment by forgiving your mate and asking him or her to forgive your sin of pride and criticism...*

*The next step is to determine that you will try to find the good points in your mate... Think about the good things your spouse does. Take time to meditate on the positive aspects of your mate's character, and pray that God will give you eyes to see only good... A happy husband once said to his wife, 'you reached into my life and found the good no one else had ever seen.' A marriage can be destructive or constructive. Whether you see and share the faults or see and share the virtues is the determining factor. You can expect tremendous positive results when you begin to practice goodfinding instead of faultfinding.*