



PART ONE:



Marriage: A Spiritual Covenant





Marriage: A Spiritual Covenant



- Marriage is a “Covenant.”
 - Malachi 2:14; Proverbs 2:16-17.
- Definition of the Hebrew word.
 - *“In the sense of cutting; a compact made by passing between pieces of flesh.”*
 - God’s covenant with Abraham (Genesis 15:10, 17-18).

Welcome from the
Kirkland church family!
“Born to belong to each other”



September 21, 2014

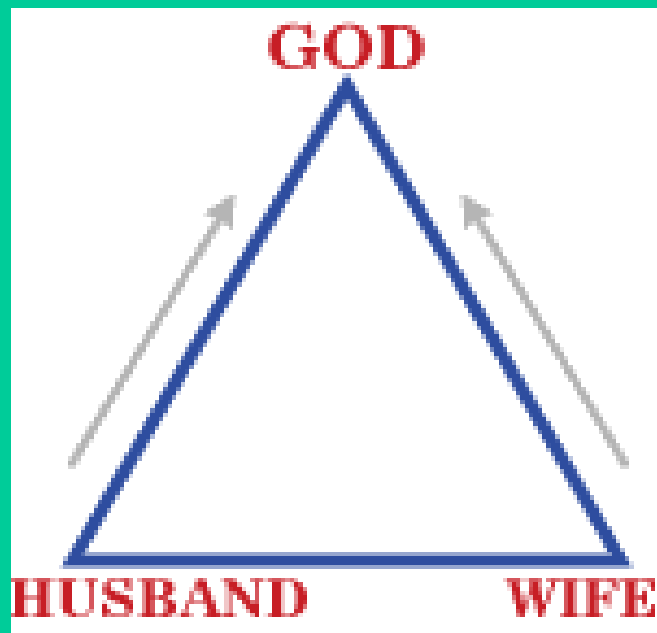


Covenant vs. Contract



The **MARRIAGE COVENANT** is sacred.

- Matthew 19:6 – “Joined in Heaven.”
- *A holy triune not a human duet.*





Covenant vs. Contract



Solomon in Proverbs 20:25

- “It is a snare to rashly say ‘it is holy’ and then later make inquiry.” NASV
- “It is a danger to a man to say **without thought**, ‘It is holy,’ and after taking his vows, to be **questioning** if it is necessary to keep them. BBE
- “An **impulsive vow** is a trap; later you'll wish you could get out of it.” *The Message*



Covenant vs. Contract



A 3-Way Divine Covenant:

- **TRUST**
- **UNLIMITED RESPONSIBILITY**
- **LIFE LONG –
NOT TO BE
BROKEN**

A 2-Way Human Contract:

- **DISTRUST**
- **LIMITING ONE'S LIABILITY**
- **VOIDED BY
MUTUAL
CONSENT**



Symbolism of the Covenant in a Wedding Ceremony



- Seating of the family & guests on opposite sides of auditorium/center aisle. Why?
 - Covenant setting... “Living sacrifices.”
- Why is there often a white runner?
 - Represents “holy ground.”
- Groom enters first – why?
 - He is to *initiate* the covenant, and has the greater responsibility.



Symbolism of the Covenant in a Wedding Ceremony



- The Father walks the bride down the aisle?
 - He is presenting his daughter as pure (Deuteronomy 22:13-21) – fulfilling his responsibility.
 - Why a white dress?
 - A statement of her moral purity.





Symbolism of the Covenant In a Wedding Ceremony



- Father gives the bride away.
 - Full blessing of the parents...
 - Transfer of authority to groom (Numbers 30:4-8; 1 Corinthians 7:38).
- Rings – *“a token of covenant.”*





Symbolism of the Covenant In a Wedding Ceremony



- Why introduce the couple?
 - Establishing the change of names.
 - Abram/Abraham.
 - Spiritually...new name...**Christians!**





Covenant Symbolism In a Wedding Ceremony



- What about the signing of the guest book?
 - Witnesses to the covenant/originally signed *after* the ceremony.





Covenant Symbolism In a Wedding Ceremony



- Purpose of the receiving line?
 - Give a blessing to couple/short note.
 - Ruth 4:11, 14-15.





Covenant Symbolism In a Wedding Ceremony



- Why is there food at the reception?
 - The “covenant celebration.”
 - Seals the covenant/similar to the Lord’s Supper.





Symbolism of the Covenant in a Wedding Ceremony



- Why feed the cake to each other?





Symbolism of the Covenant In a Wedding Ceremony



- Why does the couple feed cake to each other?
 - Symbolizes becoming “one flesh.”
 - 1 Corinthians 11:24-25 -- Lord’s Supper.



PART ONE: TONIGHT: 3/6

**Marriage:
A Spiritual Covenant**

PART TWO: SUNDAY AM 3/8

**Refreshing and Instilling
Marital Commitment**

Traits of a Successful Family



Sunday - March 8 - 5:00 p.m.

A MARRIAGE MADE IN HEAVEN (Gen 2: 24-25)

Sunday 10:30 a.m. 3/15