

RECLAIMING

God's Coding for

SEXUALITY



Genesis 2:24 - 25

SPIRITUAL TRUTHS FROM 1ST SERMON:

1. THE CROSS REVEALS THAT ***RIGHT AND WRONG MATTER*** TO GOD. JOHN 1:17(a), ROM 3:23-24
2. THE ***CHARACTER OF GOD AS GOOD*** IS REVEALED UNDER THE STRESS OF THE WOUNDS OF THE CROSS INFLICTED UPON HIS SON. ISAIAH 53:4-7
3. JESUS IS ***GRACE AND TRUTH*** MADE REAL. JOHN 1:17(b).



- **GOD IS VERY GOOD – SO HIS PLAN MUST BE GOOD, OR SOMETHING IS TERRIBLY WRONG.**

- **JN. 8:7-11** ..., HE STRAIGHTENED UP, AND SAID TO THEM, "HE WHO IS WITHOUT SIN AMONG YOU, LET HIM BE THE FIRST TO THROW A STONE AT HER." ... 10 STRAIGHTENING UP, JESUS SAID TO HER, "WOMAN, WHERE ARE THEY? DID NO ONE CONDEMN YOU?" 11 SHE SAID, "NO ONE, LORD." AND JESUS SAID, "I DO NOT CONDEMN YOU, EITHER. GO. FROM NOW ON SIN NO MORE." (NAU)



• **“THOSE WHO LIVE TOGETHER, FIRST, ARE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE.”**

- **18 – 29 AGE: 63% (BETTER); 10% (WORSE CHANCE)**
- **30 – 49 AGE: 52% (BETTER); 12% (WORSE CHANCE)**
- **50 – 64 AGE: 42% (BETTER); 14% (WORSE CHANCE)**
- **65+ AGE: 37% (BETTER); 17% (WORSE CHANCE)**

SOURCE: PEW RESEARCH, *MARRIAGE AND COHABITATION IN THE US*, 11/6/19



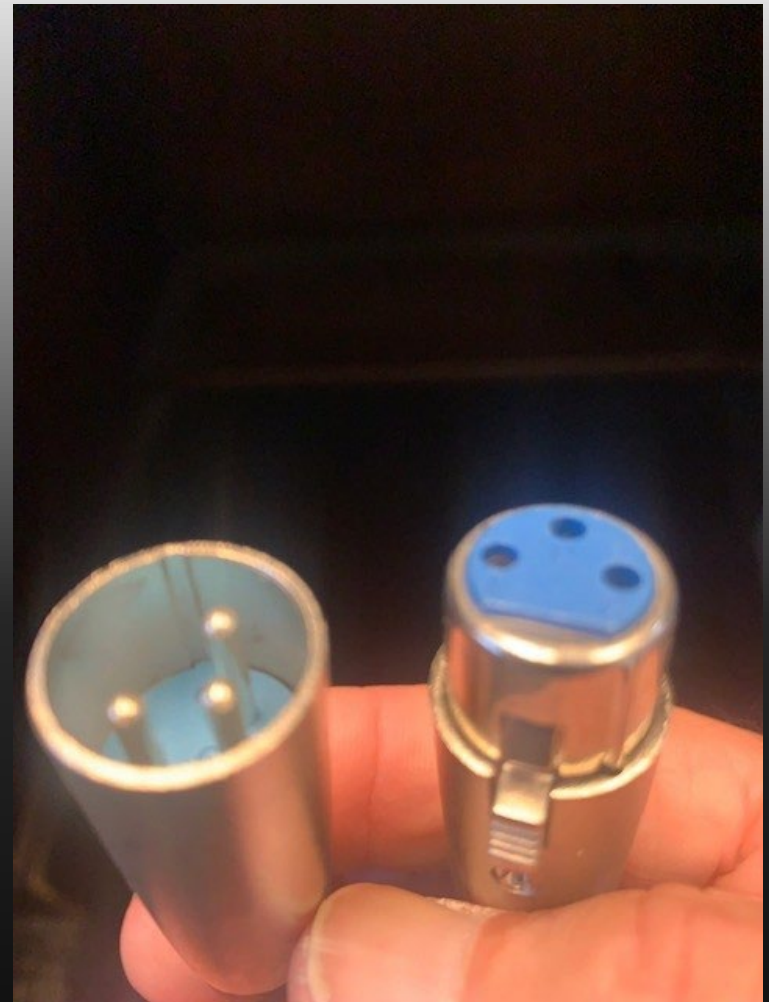
CONTINUING CHANGE IN U.S. VIEWS ON SEX AND MARRIAGE. GALLUP, 6/18/21



1. WHO CAME UP WITH THIS IDEA OF “MARRIAGE”?

- A. GOD DID. GEN 1:31; 2:22-23; MATT 19:4-5
- B. GOD “CODED” ADAM AND EVE AS SEXUAL BEINGS.
 - VERY GOOD. 1:31.
 - NAKED AND UNASHAMED. 2:25
- C. GOD PROVIDED BOUNDARIES FOR SEX. EX 20:14





2. DOES MARRIAGE OFFER SOMETHING BETTER THAN COHABITATION OR NON-MARITAL SEX?

1. HIGHEST OF HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS. GEN 2:24
2. “HOLDING FAST” - SECURITY, FAITHFULNESS, SAFETY IN COMMITMENT. COVENANT.
3. CREATES AN ENDURING NEW ENTITY – SEXUAL ONENESS, AS TWO “FIT” TOGETHER, IS GOD’S GOOD PLAN FOR HUSBAND AND WIFE.



- **HIGHER LEVEL OF TRUST AMONG MARRIED THAN COHABITING:**

- **FAITHFUL** **84% (MARRIED); 71% (COHABITATING)**
- **TELL THE TRUTH** **68% (MARRIED); 52% (COHABIT.)**
- **\$ RESPONSIBLY** **56% (MARRIED); 40% (COHAB)**

SOURCE: PEW RES - MARRIAGE AND COHABITATION IN U.S.
11/6/19 [HTTPS://WWW.PEWRESEARCH.ORG/SOCIAL-TRENDS/2019/11/06/MARRIAGE-AND-COHABITATION-IN-THE-U-S/](https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2019/11/06/marriage-and-cohabitation-in-the-u-s/)



• HIGHER LEVEL OF SATISFACTION AMONG MARRIED THAN COHABITING:

- PARENTING 49% (MARRIED); 39% (COHABITATING)**
- HHLD CHORES 46% (MARRIED); 37% (COHABIT.)**
- SEX LIFE 36% (MARRIED); 34% (COHABIT.)**

SOURCE: PEW RES - MARRIAGE AND COHABITATION IN U.S. 11/6/19

[HTTPS://WWW.PEWRESEARCH.ORG/SOCIAL-TRENDS/2019/11/06/MARRIAGE-AND-COHABITATION-IN-THE-U-S/](https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2019/11/06/marriage-and-cohabitation-in-the-u-s/)



3. MARRIAGE IS NOT A “TEST PERIOD” BUT A COMMITMENT UNTIL DEATH DO US PART.

- AND PHARISEES CAME UP TO HIM AND TESTED HIM BY ASKING, "IS IT LAWFUL TO DIVORCE ONE'S WIFE FOR ANY CAUSE?" (MATT. 19:3 ESV)



• TOP REASONS TO MARRY OR COHABITATE:

1. LOVE: 90% (MARRIED); 73% (COHABITATION)
2. COMPANIONSHIP: 66% (MARRIED); 61% (COHABIT.)
3. TEST THE RELATIONSHIP: 0% (MARRIED); 23% (COHAB.)
4. HAVE CHILDREN: 31% (MARRIED); 14% (COHABIT.)
5. FINANCIAL SENSE: 38% (MARRIED); 13% (COHABIT.)
6. PARTNER PREGNANT: 11% (MARRIED); 6% (COHAB.)

SOURCE: PEW RES - MARRIAGE AND COHABITATION IN U.S. 11/6/19

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4. MARRIAGE OFFERS THE BEST POTENTIAL FOR THE PURPOSES OF GOD TO BE ACHIEVED.

AND GOD BLESSED THEM. AND GOD SAID TO THEM, "BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY AND FILL THE EARTH AND SUBDUE IT, AND HAVE DOMINION OVER THE FISH OF THE SEA AND OVER THE BIRDS OF THE HEAVENS AND OVER EVERY LIVING THING THAT MOVES ON THE EARTH." (GEN. 1:28 ESV)



- **% OF FIRST CHILDREN EXPERIENCING PARENTAL DIVORCE/SEPARATION BY AGE 12:**

- **MOTHER MARRIED AT BIRTH – 24%**
- **MOTHER COHABITATING AT BIRTH – 65%**

SOURCE: UNIV OF VA., *STATE OF OUR UNIONS* (2022).



- **CHILDREN ARE LESS LIKELY TO THRIVE IN COHABITING HOUSEHOLDS THAN MARRIED:**

INCIDENCE PER 1000 CHILDREN OF HARM/ABUSE:

- **PHYSICAL ABUSE - 1.9 (MARRIED); 8.2 (COHABITING)**
- **SEXUAL ABUSE - .5 (MARRIED); 2.4 (COHABITING)**
- **EMOTIONAL ABUSE - .8 (MARRIED); 2.5 (COHABITING)**

SOURCE: STATE OF OUR UNION (2022), THE NATIONAL MARRIAGE PROJECT, UNIV OF VIRGINIA



- **GOD IS VERY GOOD – SO HIS PLAN MUST BE GOOD, OR SOMETHING IS TERRIBLY WRONG.**

- **JN. 8:7-11** ..., HE STRAIGHTENED UP, AND SAID TO THEM, "HE WHO IS WITHOUT SIN AMONG YOU, LET HIM BE THE FIRST TO THROW A STONE AT HER." ... 10 STRAIGHTENING UP, JESUS SAID TO HER, "WOMAN, WHERE ARE THEY? DID NO ONE CONDEMN YOU?" 11 SHE SAID, "NO ONE, LORD." **AND JESUS SAID, "I DO NOT CONDEMN YOU, EITHER. GO. FROM NOW ON SIN NO MORE." (NAU)**



- **NEXT STEPS:**

IS THE HOLY SPIRIT CONVICTING YOU TO:

- 1. TURN FROM “DOING ME” IN MY INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS TO “DOING GOD”?**
 - 2. START ANEW TO RECOVER THE “ONE-FLESH” RELATIONSHIP MARRIAGE IS INTENDED TO BE?**
- MAY WE ALL, “GO OUR WAY AND “SIN NO MORE.”**



- **ROSENFELD AND ROESLER, SOCIOLOGISTS, 2018 REPORT:**

- **“PERCEPTION OF MOST PEOPLE IS THAT COHABITATION BEFORE MARRIAGE WILL LOGICALLY IMPROVE THE CHANCE OF A SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE. ACTUALLY, COHABITATION BEFORE MARRIAGE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH A LOWER RISK OF DIVORCE IN THE FIRST YEAR OF MARRIAGE BUT A HIGHER RISK THEREAFTER. ... COHABITATION INCREASED THE ACCEPTANCE OF DIVORCE.”**



• **STATEMENT: “IT IS USUALLY A GOOD IDEA FOR A COUPLE TO LIVE TOGETHER BEFORE MARRIAGE.”**

% OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO AGREED OR MOSTLY AGREED:

1980 **32% (FEMALE); 45% (MALE)**

2020 **69% (FEMALE); 72% (MALE)**

SOURCE: THE NATIONAL MARRIAGE PROJECT, UNIV OF VA., *STATE OF OUR UNIONS* (2022), P56.

