#### Introduction

- 1. The first Divine institution God established was the home
  - a. After God had created man, He said it was not good for man to be alone (Gen. 2:18)
  - b. A suitable companion was made from one of his ribs (Gen. 2:21-22)
  - c. Adam called her Woman (Gen. 2:23)
  - d. Marriage was established and thus the home (Gen. 2:24)
- 2. The fear of the LORD is essential to the home
  - a. Just before Paul discussed the church using the language of the home, he mentioned the fear of God (Eph. 5:21)
  - b. If we do not reverence God, our homes will not be what they should be (Ps. 127:1)

## I. Reverencing God's Marriage Law

- 1. God's marriage law: one man and one woman joined together by God for one lifetime (Mt. 19:1-6)
  - a. God's marriage law was not reverenced early on (Gen. 4:19)
  - b. Favoritism, competition, and conflict come when God's marriage law is not reverenced (Gen. 16 with Gen. 21:1-21; Gen. 29-30; Gen. 37)
- 2. Death dissolves the marriage bond (Rm. 7:1-3; 1 Cor. 7:39)

# II. Reverencing God's Marriage Roles

- 1. God has defined clear roles for marriage (Eph. 5:22-33; Col. 3:18-19; Titus 2:4-5; 1 Pt. 3:1-7)
  - a. We want a spouse that fears the LORD
  - b. Sad examples of those who chose spouses that did not fear God
    - i. Solomon (1 Kgs 11:1-13; Neh. 13:23-27)
    - ii. Ahab (<u>1 Kgs. 16:29-33</u>, <u>21:25-26</u>)
    - iii. Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11)
  - c. Aquila and Priscilla are a great example of a husband and wife who reverenced God (Rm. 16:3-5; Acts 18:24-28)

### III. Reverencing God's Marriage Rights

- 1. The marriage bed is undefiled (Heb. 13:4)
  - a. God has placed the sexual relationship exclusively in marriage
    - This is why sex outside of marriage is fornication and sinful (Gal. 5:19-21)
    - ii. This is why having sexual relations with one who is not your spouse is adultery and sinful (1 Cor. 6:9-10)
- 2. Due affection is to be rendered to husband and wife (1 Cor. 7:1-5)
- 3. Trouble arises when God's marriage rights are violated (Pr. 6:20-35)

### Conclusion

- 1. God established the home early on (Gen. 2:24)
  - a. A home is made of one man and one woman joined together by God for one lifetime (Mt. 19:1-6)
  - b. The husband and wife each have their own God-given roles which must be reverenced (Eph. 5:22-33; Col. 3:18-19; Titus 2:4-5; 1 Pt. 3:1-7)
  - c. God has also given each spouse exclusive rights to each other in marriage and only marriage (<u>Heb. 13:4</u>; <u>1 Cor. 7:1-5</u>)
- 2. Let us be those that reverence God and respect His establishment of the home
  - a. When each spouse fears the LORD, the home will be as it ought to be