

Marriage: men's and women's relationship

Exodus 21, Numbers 30, and Deuteronomy 21

These three chapters alone largely define the marriage relationship. The description of which modern man strongly disavows as misogynistic!

In truth, modern man hates women and teaches them practices from their earliest youth; practices that systematically destroy any opportunity for their happiness. Modern man is hypocritically the most misogynistic culture that has ever existed.

**“Misogyny” is Greek in origin.
Literally meaning: egregious abuse of women.**

Only fifty years ago, it was still possible for a woman to live a moderately happy life with only a portion of her opportunities taken from her. In the last decades, even those few remaining advantages have been cruelly removed from her grasp.

1) A woman has no choice in whom her husband shall be.

Modern man preaches to women from their earliest age that a man should ask, on bended knee, her permission to marry.

Where contrary: Exodus 21 describes a man purchasing a woman to be his wife. Deuteronomy 21 extinguishes any possibility that she has a choice in the matter. This is viewed by modern stupidity as misogynistic.

Yet, forcing a young and inexperienced woman to make the most important decision she will ever have to make is horrific. A decision that will effect

the rest of her life!

Her father knows his daughter better than she knows her self. When she is young, youthful hormones rage her mental acuity. She rages one way and then the diametric opposite. To say to her "Dearest daughter, I can only advise, but you must make the final decision." Is atrocious even heinous.

Women are so very responsible and feel the weight of that responsibility. In my own experience, I have seen women labor for months deciding which vehicle to purchase. They carefully explore every option, weighing every possibility. Worrying, laboring, over every choice. She frets that her final decision will be the wrong one. Women should never be subjected to this pain. Women should be allowed to live life free of this burden.

She should be confident that the choice of her husband is not up to her. To feel happiness and contentment, she needs to be sure that she made no mistake. She needs to be assured that her fate is not a result of her own possible mistake. That the choice was made by her father who knows her better than she knows herself.

In addition to her father's greater experience and maturity, he also has the added benefit of his daughter's suitor's ability and desire to pay a substantial sum of money. Which does a man value and cherish more greatly? A car that was given to him free of charge OR a car for which he paid half of his savings? Think about that carefully! If a man pays \$6000 dollars for a bride, he is fully invested. He truly cares for that woman. She is important to him.

2) A man may take multiple wives so long as he can afford them.

Most attribute this as necessary for population growth in ancient times. However, this assumption is fallacious. While a man could easily sire a thousand children, if given enough wives, the woman is the bottle neck. Polygyny can't increase the rate at which women conceive, birth and nurse. Sarah, Rebekah, Bilhah, Zilpah, Racheal, and Bathsheba had two children. And Racheal died giving birth. Hagar only one. Only Leah is known to

have seven.

Today, more than one wife is not recommended by Paul and by Christ Himself. 1 Corinthians 7:1 and Matthew 19:10-11. Both Paul and Christ suggest that taking no wife is preferable.

Christ and Paul warn that in this time after Israel was rejected and scattered into the nations as we are now, that taking a wife at all is problematic and should be avoided if possible. Both passages actually suggest it is better to not marry at all. But both allow marriage to one woman. Christ does not explain this temporary departure from the Law, but Paul does. In 1 Corinthians 7 Paul explains that marriage in accordance with the Law is impossible even to one wife because of the "present distress", but that taking one wife is permissible. The "present distress" is clarified in that 1 Corinthians 7:25. v. 29-30 are quotations from Ezekiel 7:12-13 and Isaiah 24:2. Paul is saying that as the end times approach men can't keep the Law taking care of a wife, so its better not to marry or take only one, if one must.

If polygyny was permitted not for population growth, what is its merit? Why was it permitted?

The dangers of child birth were very great in ancient times. Of the six women named above, one died in childbirth. 1 in 6 women is frightful! Yet it was a reproach for a woman to be childless. Giving birth fulfills one of the greatest purposes for the creation of woman. The other was of course a help meet because with the commission God gave Adam man "It is not good that [he must do this work] alone" None the less, anything that could be done to reduce the burden of motherhood is a blessing. This is the more likely reason polygyny was permitted, as a blessing and mercy to women.

Today, all men are required to have only one wife. This is abuse of women. Every woman must have at least two children. If a woman doesn't marry or doesn't have children, other women have to make up for the missing children otherwise the race goes extinct. But if 50% of men have two wives and 25% of men have four and 15% have six and the best 10% have ten, the average woman must give birth to only 1.2 children to replace

the population every generation. That means that four out of five woman may give birth to only one child and the population still grows. This protected women from the rigors and dangers of childbirth in ancient times.

Polygyny has additional benefits to women as well. Under polygyny, women are in much higher demand, men had difficulty obtaining a wife. A disrespectful or churlish man would not be able to find a father willing to sell his daughter to him when so many other better men are offering. Bad men were forced to improve themselves before even hoping to find one wife.

Another benefit. Today women must settle for what ever man is available, good or bad. If 50% of women are good and 50% are bad, then maybe 20% of men are good and 80% are bad. Then 30% of good women end up with bad men. There just aren't enough good men to go around.

But under polygyny, good men, successful men, men that fathers find respectful and caring got multiple wives. Not only must men learn to be better to obtain a wife, but also 75% of women can be paired with good men. And the remaining women have men who must have already bettered themselves to convince fathers to sell their daughter to him.

Far from misogyny, the ancient practice of polygyny had multiple benefits for women, causing men to cherish their expensive wife, reducing the dangers of childbirth and more women get good men and men learn to better themselves.

Many modern young Mormon women express the opinion that they would rather not be a man's first wife. Many prefer to be a man's second or third wife. They reason rightly, "Men say they will be good to you, but that's just words. I want to actually see how he treats his first wife before I want to marry him."

3) A wife needs her husband's permission to bind herself into a contract.

This does not subjugate women. It protects her from unscrupulous men. In today's world, a used car dealer targets women, because he can charge them higher prices. If the world obeyed God's Law found in Numbers 30,

the wife brings the car home and the husband goes back to the dealer to void the payment agreement.

No car dealer could ever take advantage of a women. They wouldn't even want to do it. It would get very expensive for them. Car dealers would always have the husband review and sign off on the sale. A woman could walk into the market place of every good and service and of every merchandise carefree with complete freedom, being assured that no one can take advantage of her and that no one even wants to try.

Colossians 3:18 and 1 Peter 3:1

Wives are simply instructed to submit to their husbands without a reason given. The reason is given in other scriptures.

Ephesians 5:22-33

Here Paul explains that the way God designed marriage has mysterious components. But that it works only when the wife submits to her husband and her husband treats her with the same care and concern as a part of his own body.

1 Timothy 2:11-15 and 2 Timothy 3:6

The reason for submission is given here. It says women are more gullible in some matters, the weaker vessel. They are led astray more easily. So the husband must protect them as he would protect his own body from any sort of harm. If the wife refuses to obey, she opens herself up to all the harm that the world has to offer. And she disobeys God.

Finally 1 Peter 3:5

Wives should call their husband "lord" in gratitude for their protection as they are the weaker vessel.

To better understand this: A practical example of a wife calling her husband "lord" is given.

Normally a couple refers to each other by pet names "honey, sweetie, love" and also by first names. But when a moment of stress arises in disagreement, it can be completely and immediately resolved by the wife referring to her husband with "my lord." If this practice is followed, the couple never has to argue again. Here is an example.

In today's world a man might have an important decision to make. He desires someone with whom to talk it over. He needs someone with whom he can be completely candid without fear of ridicule or disapproval. He needs a help meet, someone whom he can completely trust to be supportive no matter what his decision. Otherwise her advice might be biased. This is betrayed by her anger. He dreads telling his wife about the decision because he risks her finding fault in him instead of helping him.

Every time a wife warns her husband that if he does this or that, he will be in big trouble, This teaches him to devalue her opinion. Her opinion becomes less important to him and he wants to share things with her less and less.

Every time the wife does this, he digs into his position deeper. Even if he realizes he is wrong, he becomes unwilling to give in. His unwillingness to give in causes her to dig in deeper. This is a self perpetuating situation that inevitably deteriorates into catastrophic failure.

On the other hand if a husband and wife believe every word that God told Moses, then the husband never fears the wife's disapproval. He drives home thinking "I can't wait to get home and tell my wife about this decision that I have to make so I can hear her unique take on the whole matter. She sees things that I don't and I see things she doesn't. That will really help me make this decision."

This does not happen for a marriage wherein a wife expresses even the slightest disapproval of her husband. Men and women think completely different. The man is powerless in this situation. There is nothing he can do if his wife chooses contention. Only she can choose to obey. He can not choose for her. She must make this choice.

According to Moses, the servant of God, and referenced by Peter, this

destructive dynamic can be avoided only by the wife's submission to her husband.

In a prosperous and happy marriage, the husband is confident that he can explain anything to his wife, absolutely anything! And she will listen. If she disagrees, she completely avoids conflict with her husband by softening her reaction to him. She defers to the most formal and submissive form of address. She declines to call her husband by the usual way she addresses him and says instead "My lord, I disagree and this is why" She explains her reason and then adds "I hope you change your mind, but if you do not, I will devote myself to fulfilling your wishes on the matter."

Just saying the words "my lord" and nothing else will melt his heart. His heart will skip a beat. Every protective and cherishing instinct that God built into him will be activated on hyper-drive. He may even give in to her wishes against his better judgement.

This is the most powerful thing a woman can ever say. Any woman that tries it will be amazed at her husband's reaction. It is powerful. And husbands should always say to his wife often "Honey, what you just did pleased me very much. Thank you." When a woman knows that she is appreciated, her God given sense of satisfaction and fulfillment gives her immeasurable joy. Any woman's husband should always reassure his wife that she pleases him often.