



**What Is So Important About Marriage?** - Have you ever really considered the true value and importance of that first human institution called marriage? After all, marriage existed before all

other governmental and judicial institutions, and it is indeed the very building block of civilization itself.

And as a bedrock institution, the Lord Himself taught His disciples concerning the important value of

marriage: “Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and

female, and said, ‘FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO

HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What

therefore God has joined together, let no man separate” (Matthew 19:4-6). The implications of Christ’s

instructions are quite vast and could easily be expanded well beyond the space of this article, however

there is one particular facet of this gem of marriage that should be examined very carefully, for by it we

will better grasp the answer to our original question: “*What is so important about marriage?*” When

Christ declared: “...what God has joined together, let no man separate”, He gave us a crucial valuation

concerning the institution of marriage, and it is this: Marriage is important, not only because it is the first

of all human institutions, but especially because *it is the institution of God, and not of man*. Such a

crucial teaching should serve as an important anchor for our minds, lest we drift away into the waters of

erroneous thinking. Too often are our thoughts earthly and even man-centered when we think about this

important institution of God. But when we consider that marriage is the establishment of God and not

man, we can then better understand that marriage was designed to serve the higher purposes of the Lord

and His heavenly kingdom. In fact, earthly marriage was merely designed by God to be a symbol and

portrait of an even greater, eternal marriage that will take place in Heaven and will have no end:

Revelation 19:6-9: 6 ...“Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns. Let us rejoice and be

glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself

ready.’ It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the

righteous acts of the saints. 9 Then he said to me, ‘Write: Blessed are those who are invited to the

marriage supper of the Lamb.’ And he said to me, ‘These are true words of God.’” These infallible,

prophetic words assure us that there will someday be a wedding and marriage which will be established in the eternal and immutable love of the Bridegroom who is the Lord Jesus Christ. And He, the Lamb of God, will be joined forever with His people, the saints of God for whom He was slain and shed His blood on the cross: “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation” (Revelation 5:9). This marriage union, unlike any other known to mankind upon the earth, will never end, nor will it ever suffer any of the corruptions of sin or death. This is the supreme marriage to which all earthly marriage should point. By this we see the true value of the institution of marriage in creation: Earthly marriage is a means to the greater end of magnifying the glory of the Lamb of God and His sacrifice which He made for His bride. The Lord’s ordained purpose for earthly marriage is that Jesus Christ the Lamb of God, would be exalted through a Spirit-filled imitation of Him: “...as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her...” (Ephesians 5:18-25). *In Christ alone do we see the true value and purpose of the first institution of marriage.*

Only Christ can offer the love, compassion and mercy that will endure forever. His word is true and reliable: “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away” (Mark 13:31). And His enduring mercy and love is clearly evidenced in His call to all men, everywhere, that they should repent of their sins (Acts 17:30-31) and believe in Him as the world’s only hope and Savior (1 John 4:14-15). Earthly marriages will not endure (Matthew 22:23-33), but the marriage of the Lamb and His bride will endure for days without end: “*how blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb!*”

If you would like to learn more about what it means to be a Christian or if you would like to learn more about God’s first institution of marriage, please go to: [www.thefirstinstitution.org](http://www.thefirstinstitution.org) or call: 336.945.4208 for the times and locations of this Bible study series.