

WHY ARE MATTERS OF SEX, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY SO CONTROVERSIAL?

BIG QUESTIONS SERIES – PART 3

JANUARY 17, 2016

Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."27 So God created humans in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

– Genesis 1 26:28

The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." 19 Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.

20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. 21 So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. 22 Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman, 'for she was taken out of man." 24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. 25 The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

*Jesus said, “I have come that they may have life,
and have it to the full.”*

– John 10:10

“Sex is the substitute religion of the 20th century.”
-Malcolm Muggeridge

– Malcolm Muggeridge

“The silliest woman can manage a clever man;
but it needs a clever woman to manage a fool.”

-Rudyard Kipling

1. FROM THE BEGINNING: GOD'S DESIGN.

Mark 10:2 Some Pharisees came and tested Jesus by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" 3 "What did Moses command you?" he replied. 4 They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away." 5 "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied. 6 "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.'

2. TROUBLE IN PARADISE

Genesis 3:9 The LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" 10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." 11 And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" 12 The man said, "The woman you put here with me-- she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." 13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

1 Corinthians 6:15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh."

17 But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. 18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

3. BACK TO THE FUTURE

Mark 12:25 Jesus taught, “When the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.”

- Great **EXPECTATIONS**.
- **Matthew 5:27** Jesus taught, “You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ 28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

- **Great GRACE.**

John 8:11 "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

John 4:29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?"

- **Great IDEALS.**

Ephesians 5:21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ... each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.