

“The Reason for Sex”

The “What is Biblical Sexuality” Series – Part 1

Introduction: As followers of Christ we have come to know that a good God who creates good things on purpose with a purpose.

So....we know three things about our sexuality:

1. Our sexuality is a good thing.
2. It has a purpose.
3. God has told us what that purpose is.

I. Human sexuality: It is God’s idea!

*Then God said, "Let us make man 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." **So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.** 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." God saw all that he had made, **and it was very good.** And there was evening, and there was morning--the sixth day.*
Genesis 1:26-28 & 31 (NIV)

1. The binary reality of maleness and femaleness are a foundational and purposeful part of God’s creation.
2. God commands and commissions Adam and Eve to “be fruitful and increase in number.” This is God’s directive (with His blessing) that makes it clear that He created them to be sexual with one another.
3. The creation of Adam and Eve as sexual beings is tied from the start with procreation.
4. God says this part and all the rest of creation is *very good!*

II. God creates them, male and female: the 1 becomes 2

*The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." 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.** 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. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. 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." For this reason a man will **(1) leave his father and mother and (2) be united to his wife, and (3) they will become one flesh** Gen. 2:18 & 20-24 (NIV)*

This word “Helper” in Hebrew is “ezer”. Of the 21 occurrences of this word in the Hebrew Bible, 16 times it refers to God as the helper of Israel. Therefore we know it describes a beneficial relationship, rather than implying inferiority. It is a term that establishes their mutuality established from the creation.

III. God defines how and when man and women are to sexually unit in a unique relationship we call “Marriage”

The order of the marriage process is significant. The sequence God lays out has great significance, showing why sex belongs *in* marriage, not *outside* of it. There are the three steps:

1. Leave parents’ homes – a status change in the community.
2. They make a public commitment to one another.
3. They become one flesh...consummating their oneness.

The sexual act is not just an initial, consummation of their oneness but is ongoing. Each time they come together physically it is a reminder and promoter of their oneness. It is meant to deepen their mutual devotion to the other in a life-long, growing, exclusive relationship.

NOTE: I will be reading this quote during the message:

That Eve was taken from Adam's rib connotes mutuality. It has been said; *"Eve was not taken from the feet of Adam to be his slave, nor from his head to be his ruler, but from his side to be his beloved partner."*