

“The Truth As We Know It”

The Family

6/7/15

This week I want to talk about the family and the importance of a godly nuclear family of Mom & Dad and the kids. The Family is God’s idea! It is the foundation of any solid society. I am convinced that the onslaught of the Devil against the family is a major strategy in destroying the American culture and the stability of our nation. Before there was a nation, Before there was church, there was the family.

God established the family at the very first of his creation. In Gen 2:23-24 we read, "And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." God's first instructions to them was to 'Be fruitful, and multiply', as we read in Gen. 1:28, "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth..." God is looking for God fearing people to fill the earth.

Who we marry is very important to God and for the stability of the home. God asks us to marry someone who is a Christian and has a great regard for the Bible and godly principles. In America we have bought in to the idea of 'falling in love' without considering one's heritage or family background. Often we are attracted to people who are not God's will for us and we fall into the trap of becoming unequally yoked with someone who is not God's best for

us. In 2Co 6:14 we read, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"

While I believe God honors all marriages, it is not God's plan for Christians to marry non-Christians. We see that in the story Noah. Noah's ancestry was pure! None had married outside of God's will. In Gen 6:8-9 we read, "Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. ... Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations,"

God will choose godly families to fulfill his plan. God chose one man & his family, He chose Abraham. In Gen 12:1-3 we read, "Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curses thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

I believe if God did it once, He will do it again and again. I believe God chose Abraham because of one major reason. Abraham would teach his children and his household to follow God! We see this in Gen 18:17-19 where we read, "The LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I

know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him." Abraham's blessing was contingent on him teaching his children right!

God's plan requires us to be good parents and train the next generation. In Deu 6:2-3 it tells us that we should pass on to the next generation the spiritual values that are taught in Scripture if we are to live as a Christian nation. And we read, "That you might fear the LORD your God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, you, and your son, and your son's son, all the days of your life; and that your days may be prolonged. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with you, and that you may increase mightily, as the LORD God of your fathers hath promised you, in the land that flows with milk and honey." And in verse 7, we read, "And you shall teach them diligently unto your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lay down, and when thou rise up.

That can only be done when both parents are in agreement as to what the children are to be taught. I believe God has someone special for each of us, but we need to always consider God in our decisions. There is one simple plan that we should use in meeting people in my view. 'If we are going places we should be going, we will meet people

we should be meeting, If we are going places we should not be going, we will meet people we should not be meeting.' Often times the family break-up begins before the marriage ever takes place. If either party has been sexually active prior to marriage, or if the couple has co-habitated or been sexually active prior to marriage, they start the marriage out with mistrust and suspicion. The absolute best is to follow God and maintain your personal integrity, and marry someone who has also followed the same principles in their lives.

When sexual infidelity has taken place prior to marriage, the temptation for adultery after the marriage is far greater. God has not given His laws to deny anything good from us, rather His law is there to protect us from the tragedy that will come if we violate His laws. In Pro 6:32-33 we read, "But whoever commits adultery with a woman (Or Man) lacks understanding: he that doeth it destroys his own soul. A wound and dishonor shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away."

Fussing and arguing in the home brings great stress and destroys our relationship with God. In 1Pe 3:7 it tells us, "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with your wives according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered." When we don't get along with our spouse, our prayers will not be heard!

God hates divorce! He hates divorce because the children

always get hurt! In Mal 2:13-16 from the New Living Translation He tells us, "Here is another thing you do. You cover the LORD's altar with tears, weeping and groaning because He pays no attention to your offerings and doesn't accept them with pleasure. You cry out, "Why doesn't the LORD accept my worship?" I'll tell you why! Because the LORD witnessed the vows you and your wife made when you were young. But you have been unfaithful to her, though she remained your faithful partner, the wife of your marriage vows. Didn't the LORD make you one with your wife? In body and spirit you are His. And what does He want? Godly children from your union. So guard your heart; remain loyal to the wife of your youth. "For I hate divorce!" says the LORD, the God of Israel. "To divorce your wife is to overwhelm her with cruelty, " says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "So guard your heart; do not be unfaithful to your wife."

God wants godly homes that will raise godly children! I believe one of the major problems is that our financial system is such that most families feel like they are required for both of them to have employment outside of the home in order to survive in today's economy. And we have to admit that that is often the case. But I question whether we do that because we need to, or if we are trying to live above our means and do not want to make the sacrifices we need to make in order to have the mothers stay home and be homemakers.

The Bible charges the mothers with raising and nurturing

the young children. In Pro 14:1 tells us, "Every wise woman builds her house: but the foolish plucks it down with her hands." The Apostle Paul's instruction to the aged women in Tit 2:5 was to teach the younger women "To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." And in 1Ti 5:14 we read, "I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully."

The trend for mothers being at home has changed dramatically in the US since the 1940. In 1940, 60% of the wives stayed at home and were homemakers. In the present time that percentage is only 12%. I do not believe we are better off!

Listen again next week.

This we do know, The Bible is God's Word, God's word is true, Jesus Christ is God's son, Jesus died to save us from our sin, Without Jesus we are eternally lost. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we might be saved. Atheism is a temporary condition, for every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! Jesus stands ready to save you now, Will you call on Him today?

Until next week, God bless.