### Praise be to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

As many of us know, God Himself instituted the very first marriage in the Garden of Eden. This was not just a historical event it was a divine pattern and foundation for every marriage that would follow.

In that sacred union, there was **one man (Adam)** and **one woman** (Eve) no more, no less. From this couple, all humanity came into being. This clearly establishes that a holy and complete marriage, in God's design, is between one man and one woman. This is a central and non-negotiable truth of biblical marriage.

### 1. God's Order: Responsibility Before Romance

Adam was created first. Before Eve was formed, God gave Adam work to do He placed him in the Garden, gave him authority, and assigned him responsibilities:

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it."

- Genesis 2:15 (ESV)

Only **after** Adam had a place, a purpose, and responsibility did God create Eve as a helper suitable for him.

"Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.'"

- Genesis 2:18 (ESV)

This means: A man should have established responsibilities and a **stable life before seeking a wife.** He must be in a position to provide, protect, and serve not just emotionally or physically, but also economically and spiritually.

Eve was not given to Adam to satisfy his lust, but to help fulfill God's mission.

Marriage is not primarily about sex as many mistakenly believe

today but about mutual help, purpose, and holiness.

### 2. The Role of the Woman: A Helper and a Steward

Eve was created to **help** Adam in his calling. Her value was not in wealth or appearance alone, but in her role as a co-worker and spiritual partner. The woman complements what is lacking in the man's life emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually.

The Proverbs 31 woman is a biblical picture of a godly wife industrious, wise, respectful, and supportive:

"She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness."

- Proverbs 31:26-27 (ESV)

A woman who neglects her God-given role—by gossiping, exposing her husband's secrets, showing disrespect, dressing immodestly, or living a worldly lifestyle—brings harm to herself and her home.

"The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down."

- Proverbs 14:1 (ESV)

#### 3. Holiness in Marriage: Shared Faith Is Non-Negotiable

A holy marriage must be built on **shared faith**. Scripture is clear: a believer must not marry an unbeliever.

"Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?"

- 2 Corinthians 6:14 (ESV)

If you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and follow Him, you should not consider marrying someone who does not share your faith. Marrying an unbeliever can lead to spiritual conflict, compromise, and sorrow.

Also, Christian marriage should be **blessed in the church**, not just conducted in a civil or traditional way. A wedding without the acknowledgment of Christ's lordship is incomplete for a believer.

## 4. The Bride Price (Dowry): Respecting Tradition with Biblical Wisdom

Though Adam did not pay a bride pricebecause Eve had no earthly family today's cultural norms and biblical wisdom affirm that a bride should be honored by properly presenting a bride price (dowry) if that is the custom of her family.

"Give to everyone what you owe them... if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor."

- Romans 13:7 (ESV)

Paying the bride price is not about buying a wife it's about honoring her family and acknowledging the weight and responsibility of marriage. If you are unwilling to give a small dowry, how can you expect to bear the greater responsibilities of married life?

Taking a woman away from her family should not leave a wound it should be done with healing, respect, and joy.

# 5. Eternal Perspective: Marriage Is Temporary, but God's Kingdom Is Forever

The Apostle Paul gives us a sobering and eternal view of marriage:

"But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles, and I would spare you that."

"This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none..."

- 1 Corinthians 7:28-29 (ESV)

Why does Paul say this? Because the **time is short**, and the **Rapture is** near.

Marriage, while honorable and holy, is still a **temporary institution**. In heaven, we will not marry:

"For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven."

- Matthew 22:30 (ESV)

So, let us remember: **our highest priority is not marriage, but the Kingdom of God.** 

### **Conclusion: Wait Until You Understand Before You Marry**

Marriage is not a game, a social expectation, or just a romantic pursuit. It is a **sacred covenant**, a divine calling, and a spiritual responsibility.

If you do not yet understand these truths, **it is better to wait** than to enter into marriage unprepared.

A rushed or uninformed marriage can lead to regret, division, and even spiritual downfall.

But if you seek God's will, prepare your life, honor your future spouse and their family, and marry in the Lord your marriage can reflect God's glory and fulfill His purpose.

### "Maranatha!" - Our Lord is coming!

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