

PROPOSITION:

Marriage as created and regulated by God for the true blessing of mankind is a relationship between a man and a woman in which they serve different roles but are one in ownership, aim, and means.

DISCUSSION:

- Created ... by God. Ge 2:18-24; Mk 6:17-18; 1 Co 7:12-14
- Regulated ... by God. Ps 127:1A; Pr 24:3-4
- For the true blessing of mankind. Ec 9:9; Pr 31:25B, 28-30; Mal 2:13-16
- A relationship between a man and a woman. Ge 19:5B-7; Le 18:22; Ro 1:26-27
- They serve different roles. Ep 5:22A, 23A; etc.
- But are one. Mk 3:25
- In ownership. Ep 5:28B; Mt 19:3-12
- In ... aim. 1 Co 7:32A-34
- In ... means. 1 Co 7:17, 19, 23-24, 39

APPLICATIONS: *We must ...*

1. Flee sexual immorality

- A. **Before marriage.** Having sex before marriage is one of the most selfish things we can possibly do. Children don't choose to be born. Raising children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord is difficult enough under the best of circumstances. Children have a right to be brought into this world by two people who are married to each other and unconditionally committed to God, one another, and them.
 - B. **After marriage.** Pr 5:18-19; 1 Co 7:1-5
2. **Be very careful who we date.** We must let God set our standards and refuse to compromise. 1 Ki 11:1-12 ff.
 3. **Focus on ourself first and foremost.** Mt 7:1-3; Ep 5:22, 25; 1 Pt 3:1-7
 4. **Keep our vows and trust in God.** Ps 15:1, 4B, 5C; 1 Sa 25:2-42