

University Heights Baptist Church

Ambassador's Class.
Loving, Growing, Sharing

31 July 2011

Andy on Life

(Mountain Wedding)

INTRODUCTION

How would you define marriage?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Read Gen 2:18-25; Mk 10:7-9

Note: Marriage is the state in which men and women can live together in sexual relationship with the approval of their social group. Adultery and fornication are sexual relationships that society does not recognize as constituting marriage. This definition is necessary to show that in the OT polygamy is not sexually immoral, since it constitutes a recognized married state; though it is generally shown to be inexpedient (inappropriate).¹

1. Why did God make Eve? Vs 20
2. What was Adam's reaction when he saw Eve the first time? Vs 23
3. Why are divorce statistics among professing Christians about the same as those outside of the church? Gen 3:6; 2 Cor 11:3; Rom 5:12
4. Since polygamy is allowed (not forbidden) in scripture, (Gen 4:19) why are the current court cases so controversial?
5. Recent polls say that more people are living together than are getting married. Why?
6. What difference might it make if God becomes a part of their "common law" marriages?
7. Why have 6 states made homosexual marriages legal? What is the problem? Rom 1:18-32

APPLICATION

How can your involvement with marriage best honor God?

The US Census Bureau gave the following figures:

- **In 1920, 1 divorce for every 7 marriages**
- **In 1940, 1 divorce for every 6 marriages**
- **In 1960, 1 divorce for every 4 marriages**
- **In 1972, 1 divorce for every 3 marriages**
In 1977, 2,176,000 marriage licenses were issued in the United States—and 1,090,000 divorces were granted. A ratio now of 1 to 2!
More frightening, it is estimated that as early as 1990, divorces will outnumber marriages.

America's No-Fault Divorce

According to the *US News and World Report*, the spread of no-fault divorce in the United States is one reason for the huge rise in overall rates in US divorces. Almost 1.1 million marriages were dissolved in the US in 1976—more than double the 1966 total.²

OT Old Testament

¹ Wood, D. R. W., & Marshall, I. H. (1996). *New Bible dictionary* (3rd ed.) (732). Leicester, England; Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press.

² Tan, P. L. (1996). *Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations: Signs of the Times*. Garland, TX: Bible Communications, Inc.