"The Stewardship of our "TRIBE""

(My management of my family)

(Selected Scriptures)

9-15-2021



Introduction: God could trust Abraham to manage his family well (Genesis 18:19)

**** As a spouse-parent, I must resolve to manage my family well for God's glory***

To manage my family well, I must…

I. **Be <u>rightly related to God</u> (having a deep reverence & love for Him)** **(Deut.6:4-6)**
(Lord, help me to walk with you, for their sakes)

To manage my family well, I must…

II. **Fulfil my responsibility to <u>teach my family God's Word</u>** **(Deut.6:7)**
(Lord, give me the grace to train my family in your ways)

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III. **<u>Control the influences</u> that come into my home** **(Deut.6:8-9; Ps. 101:2-3)**
(Lord, keep all wicked things out of my house; may it be adorned with your precepts)

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IV. **<u>Provide</u> for my family's physical needs of food, clothing, shelter, & protection**
(1Tim.5:8) *(Lord, give me strength to work to meet my family's necessities)*

To manage my family well, I must…

V. **<u>Pray</u> for my family every day** **(Job 1:5; Phil.4:6)**
(Lord, may I meet with you every day for their well-being)

To manage my family well, I must…

VI. **<u>Prepare</u> for my family's future success** **(Ps.78:1-8; 1 Cor.7:36-38)**
(Lord, I will be responsible for their academic training and their marriage arrangement)

To manage my family well, I must…

VII. **Be <u>committed to them</u> no matter what** **(Malachi 2:15-16)**
(Lord, I will never leave them, nor forsake them)

To manage my family well, I must…

VIII. **<u>Serve</u> my Lord together with my family** **(Joshua 24:15)**
(Lord, assist me to lead my family in the paths of righteousness)

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10-13-2021



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Introduction: God could trust Abraham to manage his family well (Genesis 18:19)

God could trust Abraham with special revelation because Abraham was trustworthy. Abraham's influential and righteous character qualified him for a close communion with God.

v. 19
"Command his children" = discipline/training
(He would teach his household the right way of living)

"After him" = example
(He would model a righteous life)

"They shall keep the way" = Obedience
(He would require obedience to God's ways)

"He will command his children" –

The Lord had confidence that Abraham would guide his family in the ways of God.

One way to see how righteous a man is, is to see how he directs his family. Abraham (in contrast to Priest Eli in the time of young Samuel) would discipline his children, require obedience from them; he no doubt would teach them God's Word (as revealed to him) and set the right example.

Although Abraham lived in a pagan society, he, like Joshua, would say, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

The Lord knew that He could entrust to Abraham revelation about His righteousness because Abraham would pass it on to his descendents.

"Abraham knew more about Sodom's future than the citizens themselves, including Lot. It is the separated believer who shares God's secrets" (Wiersbe, p. 78).

Today, only God's people know in much detail what God has in store for the future. The rest of the world is in darkness.

If a person is not obeying what he already has been entrusted with, God will not give him any more. (SEE: Matt. 25:14-30 *v. 29; *Luke 8:15-21)
Matthew 25:29 For unto every one that hath (been faithful with what he has been given) shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not (been faithful) shall be taken away even that which he hath.
Luke 8:18 Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.

"No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly" (Ps. 84:11).

**** As a spouse-parent, I must resolve to manage my family well for God's glory***

To manage my family well, I must…

I. Be <u>rightly related to God</u> (having a deep reverence & love for Him) (Deut.6:4-6)

(Lord, help me to walk with you, for their sakes)

Be All That You Should Be (v. 4-6)

"Hear" - Heb. *shema* - This word begins the well-known "Shema" which encompassed v. 4-9 and set these verses apart as Judaism's basic confession of faith (their doctrinal statement in brief).

According to rabbinic law, these verses became the contents of their phylacteries (little leather pouches containing short sections of the law), bound on the forehead and on the left arm above the elbow (cp. Ex. 13:9; Dt. 11:18; Mt. 23:5).

A. Let the Lord be the only God of your life (v. 4)

"Yahweh our Elohim is <u>one</u> Yahweh" - In a day of idolatry and polytheism, this sentence proclaims the exclusiveness and uniqueness of God.

This proclamation instilled the fundamental truth dealing with the nature of God, and this truth is that Yahweh is the <u>one</u> and <u>only</u> Yahweh (monotheism).

(In contrast to the 33 million false gods of Hinduism, Christians believe in one God)

NOTE: This declaration of the uniqueness of God in no way denies or contradicts the doctrine of the Trinity. (for example: the word *"one" (echad)* is the same word which is used when God said of Adam and Eve that the two shall be *"<u>one</u>"* flesh (Gen. 2:24).

B. Love the Lord with whole-hearted devotion (v. 5)

It's not enough to merely know God theologically; we must love Him relationally.

According to Jesus, this is the first and greatest command in Scripture (Mk. 12:30).

"Thou <u>shalt</u> love" - The imperitival force shows that our love for God is not automatic emotion but a deliberate decision (volitional, act of the will, a choice).

No half-hearted devotion will do.

"Thou shalt Love the Lord thy God . . . This is the <u>first</u> commandment." (v. 30)
Compare Mark 12:28-33)

Cp. Rev. 2:4 - "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy <u>first</u> love."

*Good <u>substitutes</u> cannot replace your first love!
(Ephesus was a working [v. 2a], discerning [v. 2b, 6], and enduring [v. 3] church, yet had left her first love)

Loving Christ even comes above loving our family and everyone else (Mt. 10:37 - "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me."

Loving God is not merely a N.T. priority, but is an eternal priority that also applied to the Old Testament saint.

SEE - Deut. 10:12

1. HOW should we love God?

"Heart . . . soul . . . mind. . . strength" = Love Him with your whole being; with everything you have.

When we love God totally (with our whole being), He is:

a. The center of my affections
"Heart" - my inner being which thinks, feels, and chooses (what I feel deeply about reflects my priorities).

b. The center of my life
"Soul" - the immaterial part of man as it relates to this life (what I live for reflects my priorities).

[c. The center of my thoughts] Mark 12:28
One area of the soul is the mind, so Jesus expands upon the word soul and includes the mind in our love of God.
"Mind" - my ideas, convictions, thoughts, philosophies of life should revolve around God. (what I spend my time thinking about [dwelling on, pondering] reflects my priorities).

d. The center of my activity
"Strength" - my physical ability (so translated in I Pet. 4:11), talents, etc., should be used for God (what I use my abilities on reflects my priorities)

2. WHY should we love God?

a. Loving God is the key to obedience
(the greatest stimulus [motivating factor] to obeying God is to love Him)

"On these two commandments hang all the Law and the prophets" (Mt. 22:40; cp. Gal. 4:14)

I Jn. 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous."

--Love makes obedience easy!

The reason "Love" is stated as the top priority attitude is because it is the motivating factor behind everything we do.

If one loves God, he will seek to please God.
If one loves God, he will be holy.
If one loves God, he will do right.
If one loves God, he will keep His commandments.

--John 14:15, 21

b. Loving God is the key to close fellowship with Christ

Jn. 14:23 - "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."

I Cor. 8:3 - "But if any man love God, the same is known of Him."

Ja. 4:8 - "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you . . ."

c. Loving God is the key to blessedness.

Showers of benefits fall upon those who make it their priority to love God.

Rom. 8:28 - "...All things work together for good to them that love God..."

Ja. 1:12 - "He shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."

*SEE Psalm 91:14-16

If the greatest command is to love God, then the greatest sin is to not love Him!

"If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be anathema" (I Cor. 16:22).

God foretold that in the last days men would be "lovers of their own selves . . . lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God" (II Tim. 3:2, 4).

As the End draws near, lovelessness will be a sign: "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold" (Mt. 24:12).

C. Hide the Word of the Lord in your heart by memorizing it (v. 6)

"These words" - the command to love God, as well as the rest of Deuteronomy.

The only way to keep God's Word *"in our heart"* is to memorize it.

"Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Ps. 119:11).

Ps. 37:31 - *"The law of his God is in his heart: none of his steps shall slide."*

Ps. 40:8 - *"I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart."*

II Cor. 3:3 - *"Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart."*

"In thine heart" - not in one of thine ears and out of the other -- but permanently stored away!

God does not want His Word in our short term "RAM" memory, but in our long term "hard disk" (C drive).

It is not accidental that God calls upon us to <u>love</u> Him and then to <u>memorize</u> His Word, because if our motive is not right, the memory work will be cold, mechanical, and hypocritical.

What are the benefits of memorizing Scripture? Having Scripture imbedded in your heart will bring:

1) Comfort in trouble
(you need to know God's promises before you can "stand" on them)

2) Deliverance from temptation (Mt. 4)
(God's Word is like a goad that pricks our conscience when we contemplate sin)

3) Recollection for witnessing
(The Holy Spirit cannot bring back into **<u>remembrance</u>** that which you gave no attempt at learning)

4) Substance for meditation
(you can't think about God's Word if you don't internalize it - Ps. 119:15, 23, 48, 78, 97)

Deut. 6:5 - Half-hearted devotion is unacceptable. Verse 6 - Love must come from the <u>inner self</u>

To manage my family well, I must…

II. Fulfil my responsibility to <u>teach my family God's Word</u> (Deut.6:7)

(Lord, give me the grace to train my family in your ways)

It is only after personally appropriating truth, after internalizing it ourselves , that we can teach our children.

This teaching is to be:

A. Repetitious
B. Specific (in content)
C. Informal
D. Continual

Teaching children spiritual truth is primarily the <u>father's</u> responsibility."

- "The <u>Father</u> to the children shall make known Thy truth." (Is. 28:19)
- Abraham was responsible to instruct his children and his household" (Gen. 18:19)
- Joshua claimed this responsibility (Josh. 24:15)
- God held Eli responsible for failing to instruct and correct his sons (I Sam. 3:f13).
- In the N.T. the command is to <u>Fathers</u> to bring them up in the <u>nurture</u> and admonition of the Lord. (Eph. 6:4; cp. I thes. 2:11)

SEE Psalms 78:5-7

Teaching is to be:

1) <u>Repetitious</u> - "Diligently" = from which describes the activity of sharpening a metal object by repeated strokes of a sanding block. (ILLUS: How God must teach us over and over)
2) <u>Specific</u> content - "Them" = the "words" of verse 6. The word, law, or commands of God.

3) <u>Informal</u> - weave teaching into your normal everyday routine.
   a. Simultaneous with other activity (<u>when</u> - sitting, walking, lying down)
   b. Different locations - house road, bed (ILLUS: how God teaches us not only at church [formally] but also during work, home, etc.)
4) <u>Continual</u> -
   a. At different times (day & night activities)
   b. All the time (from morning to morning)

While a continual, informal teaching of our children is the real key to their spiritual knowledge and growth, a specific time set apart each day is also vitally important.

A "Family Time"; "Family Devotions"; or "Family Altar" should be short, serious, and interesting.

ILLUS: A child said, "Dad, what is God like?" The reply: "I don't know - go ask your mother."

No dad knows all the answers, but he should know the elementary doctrines of the Christian faith - for we are responsible to God to teach our children!

A family without a father is like a teach without a coach; like a plane without a pilot; like a ship without a navigator.

When a home is without a father, God promises to step in as our Heavenly Father.
"He relieveth the fatherless [children] and the widow" (Ps. 146:9; cp. Hos. 14:3)

However, a family with a father who fails in his God-given roles is worse than no father at all!

To manage my family well, I must…

III. <u>Control the influences</u> that come into my home (Deut.6:8-9; Ps. 101:2-3)
(Lord, keep all wicked things out of my house; may it be adorned with your precepts)

Psalm 101:2-3
I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. [3] I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.

Fill Your Life And Home With God's Word So You Never Forget It (Deut.6:8-9)
V. 8
"Hand" - To be a a reminder that God's Word is to regulate our behavior (what we <u>do</u>).

"Between eyes" - to be a reminder that God's Word should permeate our <u>thought life</u> (what we <u>think</u>).

V. 9
A home should have God's Word displayed throughout it.
Suggestions:
--verses on cards (taped at conspicuous places)
--posters
--bumper stickers
--framed Scripture verses

To manage my family well, I must…

IV. <u>Provide</u> for my family's physical needs of food, clothing, shelter, & protection

(1Tim.5:8) *(Lord, give me strength to work to meet my family's necessities)*

1 Tim. 5:8

But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

The wife must be committed to the home & family.
"Keepers [lit. workers] at home" - Tit. 2:3-5.
I Tim. 5:14 - "I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, <u>guide the house</u>, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully."
Even widows were to be cared for, and not expected to have to go out into the work place. A woman's place is in the home! I Tim. 5:8 ff.
(EX: Christ made arrangements for his widowed mother to be cared for - Jn. 19:26-27).

Why do many wives work outside of the home today?

1) Because husbands are not doing their job
2) Because they want to live on a "higher standard" of living.

What are the problems caused by wives working outside of the home?

1) Immorality between men and other men's wives.
2) The children are affected because of the lack of Mother's attention, training, discipline, & love. The day-care is often all the care they get; and this care cannot match that which a mother can give.
3) The home suffers. Wives come home from a busy, pressure-filled, hectic day at work and are too exhausted to be much of wife to the husband or much of a mother to the children.
4) Inflation. NOTE: working women is a major cause of inflation. Because families are earning more money, the value of a dollar is less.

To manage my family well, I must…

V. <u>Pray</u> for my family every day (Job 1:5; Phil.4:6)

(Lord, may I meet with you every day for their well-being)

Job 1:5

And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

Philip. 4:6

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR CHILDREN'S NEEDS
NOW AND IN THE FUTURE
By Mrs. John Marshall

1. That they will know Christ as Savior early in life. Ps. 63:1; 1 Tim. 3:15
2. That they will have a correct fear of God. Prov. 1:7
3. That they will not hate instruction but will heed rebuke. Prov. 15:32
4. That they will have hatred of sin (Ps. 97:10) and hunger and thirst for righteousness (Mt. 5:6).
5. That they will be caught when guilty. Ps. 119:71
6. That they will be protected from the evil one in each area of their lives: spiritual, mental, emotional, physical. John 17:15
7. That they will have a responsible attitude in all their inter-personal relationships. Dan. 6:3
8. That they will respect those in authority over them. Rom. 13:1
9. That they will desire the right kind of friends and be protected from the wrong friends. Prov. 1:10-11
10. That they will be kept from the wrong mate and saved for the right one. 2 Cor. 6:14-17
11. That they, as well as those they marry, will be kept pure until marriage. 1 Cor. 6:18-20
12. That they will learn to totally submit to God and actively resist Satan in all circumstances. James 4:7
13. That they will be single-hearted to be sold out to Christ. Rom. 12:1-2
14. That they will be hedged in so that they cannot find their way to wrong people or wrong places and that the wrong people cannot find their way to them. Hos. 2:6

My Prayer List for my wonderful Wife, Terri

1. **Lord, Give Terri a CLOSE WALK WITH CHRIST**
   (Intimate with Him though Prayer & the Word)
2. **Lord, Give Terri Your PROTECTION**
   - Physical Protection (Safety)
   - Emotional Protection (from inappropriate or sinful emotions)
   - Spiritual Protection (from Satanic attack)
   - Sexual Protection (from all forms of immorality)
3. **Lord, Give Terri a SPIRITUALLY SUCESSFUL DAY**
   - Impacting others for Christ
   - Caring for the needs of the family
   - Bearing fruit & demonstrating the fruits of the spirit
4. **Lord, Help me BE ALL THAT MY SPOUSE NEEDS for her to be all that she can be for Christ**
5. **Lord, Give Terri the GRACE TO FULFIL HER ROLE & RESPONISBILITY in the marriage & family**
6. **Lord, help Terri OVERCOME THE PRESSURES, STRESSES, & VARIOUS TEMPTATIONS that she might face**
7. **Lord, help Terri experience THE LOVE OF GOD, THE JOY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND A SENSE OF FULFILLMENT in accomplishing God's will throughout the day.**

To manage my family well, I must…

VI. Prepare for my family's future success (Ps.78:1-8; 1 Cor.7:36-38)

(Lord, I will be responsible for their academic training and their marriage arrangement)

1 Cor. 7:36-38

But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry. [37] Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, doeth well. [38] So then he that giveth her in marriage doeth well; but he that giveth her not in marriage doeth better.

Preparing for Marriage

Next to your children's relationship with the Lord, the next most important relationship will be with their future spouse. Therefore, it is vitally important for parents to know what principles to teach their children regarding dating and marriage.

1. Teach your children the basic virtuous characteristics that will prepare them for dating and marriage.

Before you can adequately teach your children, you must have a Biblical definition of love, of marriage and its purpose and permanence, and of role responsibilities.

*The best way to prepare your children for marriage is to set an exemplary model in your marriage.

Teach your teenagers about:

a. Genuine love (I Cor. 13)

b. Accepting God's timing and will (Gen. 29:20; Prov. 3:5-6; Ja. 4:15)

c. The importance of good friendships (I Cor. 15:33)

d. Priorities (Mt. 6:33)
Parents must explain to their teen what to look for in a mate.
--Godliness over glamour
--Personal character is priority over personal appearance (Prov. 31:30)

e. Design for sex in marriage and standards of moral purity
(I Thess. 4:1--8; Heb. 13:4; I Cor. 7:1-5; Prov. 5:18-21; Ps. 101:3)
When children enter puberty and begin to have questions regarding sexual behavior, parents cannot neglect this topic. If children don't learn of God's design, standards, and purpose for the marital, physical expression of love from their parents, they will often go to their peers and the world for answers.

If parents answer questions that their children ask about reproduction or sex, and the parents answer frankly, unashamedly, and discreetly, this will result in the child feeling free to come to the parents with other questions and thus keep communications open.

2. Teach your children about proper courtship:

a. Teach your teens that serious dating is for "mating" (marriage).
(Serious dating should not precede the age of 18, or until both are mature enough and ready to manage the responsibilities of marriage.)

b. Because God created man as the initiator and woman as the responder, the young man should assume leadership in the dating relationship. He is the one who asks the girl for a date. In fact, girls should not make any kind of attempt to initiate a relationship with a boy (i.e. girls should not walk up and start a conversation, make phone calls, etc.).

c. What procedure should Christian girls follow in a dating relationship?
   1) Remember you are under the authority of your father until you marry (I Cor. 7:36-38).
   2) Before starting to date, meet with your father (whether or not he is a Christian) and share with him your goals for marriage: that yours will be the kind of marriage God wants, and thus be the happiest possible.
   3) Agree that any boy who wants to date you must first ask your father for permission. This simply requires saying, "I am honored that you have asked, but before I can give you an answer, you will have to ask my father." This takes all the pressure off the girl and creates these benefits:
      a) It makes the boy appreciate you more because what is easily gotten is not usually appreciated.
      b) It decreases the temptation of the boy to mistreat you. If he thinks you are completely on your own, it increases the risk that he will try something.

c) It proves to the boy that your father loves you.
d) It gives your father a chance to discern the boy's intentions. A woman is more affected by actions than by motives, but a man discerns first the motive.
e) It places the boy under your father's counsel, which is exactly where he should be if the relationship grows into marriage.

4) Agree that anytime a fellow starts talking to you about marriage you will say, "If you are thinking about marriage, you had better talk to my father." This is tremendously important because so often talk about marriage is just camouflaged lust.

3. Teach your children about discerning <u>God's will</u>.

How can your children know who is the right one for marriage?

Follow God's principles for courtship:

a. Be submitted and obedient to the advice and discretion of your parents (Eph. 6:1-2).
b. Determine that you will date only <u>Christians</u> (I Cor. 7:39; II Cor. 6:14-18).
God forbids the intermarriage of a believer with a non-believer (SEE: Gen. 24:3-4, 28:1-2; Ex. 34:12-16; Deut. 7:3-4; Ezra 9:10-12; Neb. 10:30).
Examples of disasters caused by unequal yokes in marriage:
1) The sons of God married good-looking but godless daughters of men (Gen. 6:2).
2) Esau married two Hittite wives (Gen. 26:34-35).
3) Samson became betrothed to a Philistine woman (Jud. 14).
4) Solomon married heathen women (Neh. 13:26).

c. Determine that you will strive to **<u>be</u>** the <u>right one</u>, rather than focusing on meeting the "right one" (Rom. 2:1-2).
d. Be busy doing the general <u>will</u> of God, and He will guide you in the specifics of His will (Phil. 2:12-13; Prov. 3:5-6).
God doesn't move "parked cars"; rather, He steers us as we are busy ministering for Him (Acts 13:2).
e. Purpose in your heart that you will not <u>defile</u> yourself or <u>defraud</u> the one you date (I Cor. 7:1-2; I Th. 4:6).
f. Decide that the one you marry must <u>enhance</u> your <u>ministry</u>, not diminish or destroy it (Is she a "helpmeet" [Gen. 2:18] or a hindrance?).
g. Yield your plans to God's <u>will</u> in the vital area of dating and marriage (desire His will above all else) (Mt. 6:33).
h. Wait for God's <u>timing</u> (Eccl. 3:1).

4. Teach your children what to <u>avoid</u> in a dating relationship.

a. Avoid the "steady" relationship until the time is right.
(Have several friends and let God bring the right one alone in His time)
b. Avoid <u>situations</u> and <u>circumstances</u> that might involve temptations and trouble (don't be alone in <u>secluded</u> places).
c. Avoid physical involvement (lust can't wait until marriage; but true love can).

VII. Be committed to them no matter what (Malachi 2:15-16)

(Lord, I will never leave them, nor forsake them)

The bottom-line, bedrock foundation of a home is commitment.
In order to have a stable and secure home -

***Both husband and wife must have a conviction that their marriage is permanent!**

In God's Word, the Bible, -

The permanence of marriage is evidenced by:

A. The Meaning of a "COVENANT" (Malachi 2:14)

(Marriage is a Covenant)
--Definition of a "Covenant"
--Examples of "Covenants" in the Bible

1) Gen. 15:6-18 - Abrahamic Covenant (cp. Jer. 34:18-19)
2) Matt. 26:28 - The New Covenant

1. The marriage covenant is an irrevocable Vow
   Observe the nature of vows:
   a. Numbers 30:2 - Your words are extremely important
   b. Deuteronomy 23:21 - God holds you accountable
   c. Example: Jephthah's vow - Judges 11:30-39

2. The marriage covenant is an unconditional Vow
   "For better or for worse, for richer or for poorer"

B. The Bonding of "WEDLOCK" (Gen. 2:24)

(Marriage is an inseparable union)

1. The Cleaving of Marriage (v. 24a)
2. The Oneness of Marriage (v. 24b)
3. "Till death do we part" (Romans 7:2-3)

C. Christ's Relationship to His BRIDE (Eph. 5:22-32)

(Jesus will never forsake His wife, the Church)

1. The Church is one with Christ (Eph. 5:30; I Cor. 6:17)
2. The Church is the "Bride of Christ" (Rev. 19:7-9)
3. The Church has the promise of eternal security (Mt. 16:18; Jn. 10:28-29; Titus 1:2; Heb. 13:5)

D. God's Attitude about DIVORCE (Malachi 2:16)

(God hates divorce)

1. "He may not put her away all his days" (Deut. 22:19, 29)
2. "Whosoever shall put away his wife. . . and marry another, committeth adultery against her" (Mark 10:11; Luke 16:18).

Malachi 2:15-16

And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. [16] For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the Lord of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.

In a day of quick & easy abandonment, we need husbands & wives who are committed to each other and to the children, through thick & thin!

To manage my family well, I must…

VIII. <u>Serve</u> my Lord together with my family **(Joshua 24:15)**

(Lord, assist me to lead my family in the paths of righteousness)

Joshua 24:15

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.