A MARRIAGE MADE IN HEAVEN

Introduction

A. “Holy Head-lock” or “Holy Wed-lock”? (Is love the wine of life and marriage the hangover?)
B. A “marriage made in heaven” (not perfect, but highly satisfactory) IS possible!
   1. “It takes two to tango---three to marry”
   3. God invented marriage. It’s the only part of Paradise left!
C. KEY: Return to the beginning (source, blueprint)
D. The Garden of Eden provides 4 MUSTS (pillars) for a successful marriage
   1. When building, concentrate on YOURSELF, not your spouse!
   2. “Marriage is not so much finding the right person as being the right person.”

The 4 PILLARS FOR A SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE ---

#1 SEVERANCE
   a. “Leave & cleave” --- breaking the parent/child bond is ESSENTIAL!
   b. Weddings are simultaneously sad and beautiful --- there is a loss!
   c. When there is no severance, there is trouble.
      1. Adam & Eve represent the perfect family (no problems)
      2. Adam had no mother-in-law! (no parent/child conflicts)
   d. If one can’t leave, one shouldn’t marry!
      Illus.: The song “Billy Boy” shows that if the girl is “a young thing and cannot leave her mother,”…it’s a good reason to not take her for a wife.
   e. “A man SHALL leave…” is strongly stated. It’s not might or may.

#2 PERMANENCE
   a. Cleave means “to cling to, to grab or hold with firmness”
   b. It’s not drifting from the dock and tying up somewhere else!
   c. IT IS FOR LIFE! (Not masking tape, but super glue!)
   d. KEY: Never consider divorce an option!
   e. “What God has joined together…” Matt 19:6
      1. Don’t prematurely sever marriage by divorce, but only by death.
      2. Embalming & divorce: 2 things not to be done before their time!
f. We must learn to live with and just accept some things like our bodies, the day of our death, and the people we have chosen to marry.
g. **Choose your love and love your choice!**

### #3 UNITY

a. “Shall **become** one…” It’s a PROCESS designed perfectly by **God** for us.
b. “**Marriage is two becoming one and the whole time you are trying to figure out which one you are becoming!**”
c. This is a growth process you work **toward**.
   1. It’s not just liking the same things (though that helps)!
   2. It’s more than just **uniformity**.
d. There must be **surrender**, or it becomes **uniformity, not unity**!
   Illus.—Picture two cats with tails tied together thrown over a fence… is this union or unity???

e. Unity involves the willingness to **blend wills**, YOURS with your MATE’s!
   1. **KEY**: Look for mutual goals.
   2. “**Love is not so much looking into each other’s eyes, but looking in the same direction!**”
   3. Only then will you become one!

**THE GOAL**: To grow closer to each other by molding each one’s will to God’s!

### #4 INTIMACY

a. They were “**both naked and not ashamed.**”
   1. This is literal, but broader than physical.
   2. It means no emotional barriers — no covering up.
   3. Be emotionally naked and open before each other…not afraid!
b. It’s tragic when one can’t share his/her life with the other.
   1. **KEY**: **Meaningful self-disclosure!**
   2. This requires some T.V. --- Transparent Vulnerability!
c. Being totally open with each other’s faults, knowing you are still loved anyway, and trusting this information will not be misused, then you will truly discover a **MARRIAGE MADE IN HEAVEN!**

**CONCLUSION:**

**THESE ARE GOD’s PRINCIPLES --- THEY WILL WORK TO BLESS US IF WE WILL WORK TO USE THEM!!!**
“Unity”

Man satisfies the woman;
Woman satisfies the man;
GOD blesses the union.

Man plants the seed;
Woman bears the child;
GOD gives the spirit.

Man sets the discipline standards;
Woman sets the love standards;
GOD balance discipline with love.

Man is the bread winner;
Woman is the bread warmer;
GOD is the bread provider.

Man is woman’s hero;
Woman is man’s cheerleader;
GOD is the coach.

Man leads as the woman’s head;
Woman follows as the man’s body;
GOD makes them become one flesh.

Man presents a picture of Christ;
Woman presents a picture of the church;
GOD makes them joint-heirs.