



Genesis Chapter 3b Gods Ordained Union of Marriage

During our study of the first two chapters of the book of Genesis we spoke about our Fathers 7th Day Sabbath that he said would be a sign between him and his people and a perpetual agreement for all generations forever. We spoke about evolution, and the fact that it has no true scientific or spiritual foundation. We spoke about the fact that man was created in the image of God and the implications of that biblical fact. We also spoke about our Fathers “Divine Counsel” and the fact that our Father in Heaven has always surrounded himself with a “Divine Counsel”. And as we moved into Genesis chapter 3 we made note of the fact that the rest of the scriptures all link back to Genesis chapter 3 and the rise and the fall of man. And we also spoke about this “Shining One” or the “Nachach”... also known as the “Serpent” that talked Eve into taking the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and sharing it with her husband Adam. We spoke about the tactics that the “Shining One” also known as the “Serpent” used to trick Eve into partaking of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and we made note of exactly how our adversary works, and how he often times uses these very same tactics to trick us into doubting our Fathers word, and then flat out denying what our Father in Heaven has clearly commanded. But today we’re going to dive a little deeper into exactly what happened that day in the garden, and we’re going to see some things that will connect us back to the “Reality of Duality” that we spoke of earlier in our study into the book of Genesis.

Now... we’ve already read Genesis chapter 3 last week... but just to refresh our memories... lets go back and re-visit it again before we get into the intricacies of chapter 3. Let’s read Genesis chapter 3:

Gen 3:1 *Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"*

Gen 3:2 *And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,*

Gen 3:3 *but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'"*

Gen 3:4 *But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.*

Gen 3:5 *For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

Gen 3:6 *So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.*

Gen 3:7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

Gen 3:8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Gen 3:9 But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

Gen 3:10 And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself."

Gen 3:11 He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

Gen 3:12 The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate."

Gen 3:13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

Gen 3:14 The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

Gen 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

Gen 3:16 To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

Gen 3:17 And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

Gen 3:18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.

Gen 3:19 By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Gen 3:20 The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

Gen 3:21 And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

Gen 3:22 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—"

Gen 3:23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken.

Gen 3:24 He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

Now last week we talked about the different Hebrew words for things like "Serpent", and we know that the Hebrew word for "Serpent" is "Nachash" and we also know that "Nachash" means "The Shinning One".

One of the things that I want us all to see is what it was that caused Eve to partake of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. We're given three things that made Eve finally make the decision to disobey God. What were they? Genesis 3:6:

Gen 3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

So, the first thing was that she saw... that the tree was good for food. So, she began to covet the tree because she saw that it was good for food. She wanted... what belonged to someone else, and that someone else just happened to be God. One of the first things that often gets man into trouble is the eye, and what we "see"... And then we "want"... and we begin to covet what someone else has. Psa 119:37 says "*Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.*" Psa 101:3 says "*I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless. I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me.*" Mat 5:28 says "*But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*" Mat 6:22 and 23 says:

Mat 6:22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!"

How important do you suppose it is that we guard what our eyes see? Our very own eyes can be the very tools that our adversary uses against us, and the more we feast our eyes upon things that are forbidden, or things that do not belong to us... the more our adversary is able to tempt us. We are thereby giving him power over us, by allowing him to use the eye, to tempt, and entice us with things that are forbidden.

The second thing that caused Eve to stumble and fall was that the tree was a delight to the eyes. It looked attractive. It looked good. It looked inviting. Is it safe to say that not everything that looks attractive, good, and inviting... truly is... attractive, good, and inviting? Why is it that we're told that even the Devil himself loves to dress himself up like an angle of light? He wants to appear, attractive, good, and inviting. You see it's all part of the deception. And as we all know... we've already been told that you will know them by their.... "fruit"... not what they look like.

When our Messiah was educating the Pharisees in Matthew chapter 23 he told them that they were like "*whitewashed tombs... beautiful on the outside, but full of dead men's bones on the inside*". Once again... they appeared beautiful, and pious, and attractive to the eye... but in John chapter 8 verse 44 Yahshua tells them that they are of their Father the Devil. And so once again my friends... not all things that look attractive, and good, and inviting... truly are attractive, good, and inviting. Look around at how many mega church prosperity preachers that

there are today even in our day and age that do nothing more than scratch the itching ears of a lost generation. That fruit that came from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was not a fruit that produced good fruit was it? At least not for mankind it wasn't. And it caused Eve to produce the fruit of disobedience, that then caused her to go one step farther in offering that forbidden fruit to her husband Adam.

And what was the third thing that caused Eve to stumble and fall? We're told that the tree was to be desired to make one wise. Eve wanted to be wise, and in verse 5 we hear the "Shining One" telling Eve that this forbidden fruit would make her like God. And we've already talked about the ramifications of this deception in part one of our study into the book of Genesis chapter 3, so I won't go back into that here again other than to say that man still to this day is being deceived into thinking that he can be his own God. Man, and his new-found religion of science is already proclaiming that in just a few years down the road artificial intelligence will pave the way for man to be able to genetically re-design the human body so that he can live forever.

Now I want to pause here for just a moment so that we can talk about the vanity of wisdom. Eve wanted to be wise, and this was one of the attributes that the "Shining One" promised Eve that the forbidden fruit would give her. Now wisdom is not all together a bad thing, but we must also be aware of those who are trapped in their own self-righteous hunger for wisdom, and what too much wisdom can often times bring.

Have you ever been caught up in the trap of thirsting for "wisdom"? Have you ever known anyone else who has put their own "wisdom" on a pedestal, and is so proud of the "wisdom" that they think that they possess... that they have unknowingly made their own "wisdom" the very god that they worship? Proper wisdom that is given by the Spirit of our Father in Heaven can be a great blessing... but at the same time it's important for every Christian to realize... that "wisdom" is not what saves us. "Wisdom" is simply a tool that if handled properly... will bring us closer to our Father in Heaven and his only begotten Son. With that being said... I'd like us to read through a few scriptures just to make my point. 1st Corinthians 13:2:

1Co 13:2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

Once again my friends... "wisdom" in of itself... does no save us. 1st Corinthians 8:1-3:

1Co 8:1 Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." This "knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up.

1Co 8:2 If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know.

1Co 8:3 But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

Once again we see that "wisdom" takes a backseat to the love of God. And before we move on I

just want us to hear from King Solomon who was according to the scripture... the most wise man to have ever lived. Ecclesiastes 1:16-18:

Ecc 1:16 I said in my heart, "I have acquired great wisdom, surpassing all who were over Jerusalem before me, and my heart has had great experience of wisdom and knowledge."

Ecc 1:17 And I applied my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is but a striving after wind.

Ecc 1:18 For in much wisdom is much vexation, and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.

So once again when we talk about “wisdom” it’s important that we learn the lessons of King Solomon who was indeed the wisest man in history according to the scripture. 1st Kings 4:29-30:

1Ki 4:29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore,

1Ki 4:30 so that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt.

Let me ask you my friends... how’d that workout for Solomon? In the beginning, we see a very religious, very pious, very humble Solomon who threw his whole heart into the building of Gods temple. A man whose heart was truly after the heart of our Father in Heaven. But what happened in the end? What did Solomon do? He married woman outside of the house of Israel. Women who really had no faith in the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Women who were idolaters, and who served other pagan little “g” gods. Solomon remained faithful to God for a while but after being married to these faithless women Solomon began to wear down didn’t he? These pagan women slowly but surely began to wear down the King, and before he knew what was happening... the Devil already had the noose around his neck.

In first Kings chapter 3 verses 11 and 12 we’re told that Solomon was given more wisdom than any man that had come before him and any man that would come after him. And yet what did he do with the wisdom that he had? He traded the wisdom that God had given him for the wisdom of a harem of beautiful pagan women. I find this more than just a little alarming when we understand that it was Eve... the woman who sinned in the garden and caused Adam to fall, and it was this harem of women who caused the wisest king in all of Israel to fall. Our adversary is well aware of the power that a beautiful woman can have over a man. I want us to hear what Paul tells Timothy about the woman, and why it is that Paul did not allow a woman to exercise authority over a man. Let’s turn to 1st Timothy 2:7-15:

1Ti 2:7 For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

1Ti 2:8 I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling;

1Ti 2:9 likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire,
1Ti 2:10 but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works.
1Ti 2:11 Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness.
1Ti 2:12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet.
1Ti 2:13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve;
1Ti 2:14 and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.
1Ti 2:15 Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

Now I want us all to understand that not every Pastor will preach this scripture. It takes a brave Pastor to wade into these waters... especially in the times that we now live in... but never the less, we as the body of the Messiah need to read these scriptures. My point is found in verse 14 “*and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.*” So, what Paul is proclaiming to Timothy is exactly what we see in Genesis Chapter 3 verse 16:

Gen 3:16 To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

Now in today's modern-day culture many of us may find this rather striking. In today's world of the liberal left thinking mindset, that the ruler of this world has clearly lead many people into... Pastors and so-called men of God today don't like to preach, or teach on these kinds of scriptures. But I tell you the truth my friends.... The day a Pastor decides that he's going to preach and teach some of the scriptures and not all of the scriptures... or that he's going to add his own sugar-coated spin on what our Father in Heaven clearly commands his people.... that's the day that that Pastor is no longer a Pastor. That Pastor is no longer a shepherd, who guards the flock from danger, and from evil. When the day comes that I don't love Gods people enough to tell them the truth... that's the day that I no longer have the Spirit of God upon me... and that's the day that I have become the enemy of Gods people. May my Father in Heaven never allow this day to come.

Now... with all of that being said... we also know that a man is to love his wife as our Messiah loves the church. Paul is more than clear about how the relationship between a man and a woman who are married should be understood. Let's read Ephesians 5:22-27:

Eph 5:22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.
Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.
Eph 5:24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.
Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,
Eph 5:26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the

word,

Eph 5:27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

And so, it is that the man is indeed the head of the household... not the woman. And it is written that the wife should submit in everything to their husbands. But... it is also commanded that the man has the responsibility to love his wife as our Messiah loved the church... and we all know how much our Messiah loved the church. He laid down his very life for her. So in other words, men if you're not treating your wife the way that the Messiah would treat the church... then you're the one who is outside the will of God.

And so, I want us to return our attention back to Genesis chapter 3 and I want us to understand exactly what took place in that garden that day. Paul clearly tells us in 1st Timothy 2:14 (as we've already seen) that Adam was not deceived, but that Eve was deceived. It does not say that Adam did not sin... it simply says that Adam was not deceived. And so, I want us to understand what took place here.

We must remember that Adam was put in the Garden first. Who else was in the Garden? The serpent was also in the Garden was he not? So Adam and the Serpent were in the Garden before the woman entered into the picture. What else was in the Garden? The forbidden tree of the knowledge of good and evil... it too was in the Garden. So Adam, and the Serpent, and the Tree were all in the Garden before the woman ever even came into the picture. And yet... the Serpent was never able to deceive Adam before the woman was introduced into the picture. Adam had walked with God in the Garden. So what happened when the woman was introduced into the picture? The "Serpent"... the "Shining One"... the "Nachash" saw that the woman was beautiful and that Adam loved the woman because the woman came out of the man and God had given him the woman as a helper and a mate. What better target would there be for the serpent to try and attack the man, but through the beautiful woman that the man loved?

So, the serpent beguiles the woman and tricks her into eating the forbidden fruit. Now what we need to remember is that Adam knew full well... that when his wife took of this fruit... that she would surely die... because this is what God said. Can you imagine what was going through the mind of Adam? The woman that God had given to him to love and to cherish and to be the bone of his bones and the flesh of his flesh had just disobeyed God and had eaten the forbidden fruit, that God said would lead to death.

And I want our brothers who are married to think about this for just a moment. What would you do if your wife were to have eaten that forbidden fruit and you knew that God said whoever ate of it would surely die? I guess it depends on how much you love your wife doesn't it?

But you see Adam loved his wife so much... that in order to try and save her... he too, took and ate of the forbidden fruit. Just as Paul says... Adam was not deceived. He knew full well what he was doing, and he did it because he knew that if God killed them both... there would be no

one there to tend to the Garden, and so Adam took a chance... And he too... ate of the forbidden fruit because he loved his wife that much. Even if Adam had to die along with his wife... he was prepared to do so. And this once again becomes the reality of duality when we read in the New Testament that a man is to love his wife as the Messiah loved the church... that he gave his life for.

Adam was a shadow of our Messiah. Let's read what the Apostle Paul tells us about Adam being a type of our Messiah in Romans 5:14:

Rom 5:14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

So what we need to understand here is that Yahshua... Jesus our Messiah was in effect... the second Adam... who had to come in order to undo the mistakes that Adam had willingly made because of his love for his wife. Adam loved God... and Adam was not deceived... Adam simply made a bad choice. He chose his love of the woman over his love of God, but never the less... God understands love. And so, our Father in Heaven showed mercy to both Adam and Eve, and it was because of God's grace... that he sent his only begotten Son to undo, what Adam had done.

When we who are spiritual look at the underpinnings of all of this... we can clearly see the importance of the concept of "marriage" in all of these things. The "Reality of Duality" comes rushing into the picture to assist us in better understanding the institution of marriage, and why it is God ordained and not man ordained. So, what are the mechanics of Gods ordained institution of marriage, according to what we find in the scriptures? Well let's see... we already know that in Genesis chapter 3 verse 16 God tells the woman that her desire shall be for her husband, and he shall rule over her... but that not the end of the story by far. Once again let's turn back to Ephesians 5:22-33:

Eph 5:22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.

Eph 5:24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

Eph 5:26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

Eph 5:27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

Eph 5:28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

Eph 5:29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church,

Eph 5:30 because we are members of his body.

Eph 5:31 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

Eph 5:32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

Eph 5:33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

You see my friends there are far too many of Gods people on the prayer lists of today's congregations who are separated or in the middle of a divorce because one or both of them do not obey what is written in the Word of God. And yet when I begin to counsel both parties... both will almost always profess to be Christians. And yet the very reason that they are separated, and/or seeking a divorce is because one or both of them are just that... they are "professing Christians"... who profess to be Christian, but are not. They are willfully choosing to do the exact opposite of what their own God breathes scriptures tell them to do.

And my heart goes out to those of our brothers and sisters that have been walking with our Messiah, and have a spouse who refuses to listen. I fully understand the pain that this can cause. But this is the result of marrying outside of Gods people. If you're marrying an outsider who is not a faithful believer in our Messiah, and who does not have a deep-seated understanding of the scriptures... then you cannot expect that marriage to endure. Because your spouse will have no moral compass to live by. The only moral compass that they will have is the moral compass that they have created for themselves, or one that the ruler of this world has given them.

Our Father in Heaven told the Prophet Hosea to marry a prostitute by the name of Gomer. Let's read Hosea 1:1-3:

Hos 1:1 *The word of the LORD that came to Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.*

Hos 1:2 *When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD."*

Hos 1:3 *So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.*

God had Hosea marry this prostitute by the name of Gomer because he knew that she would treat Hosea the same way that the children of Israel were treating God. God knew that Hosea would come to love Gomer, and that Gomer would cheat on him, and lay with other men, and abandon her children just the same way that Israel cheated on God with other pagan little "g" gods, and had abandon her children and even cast her children into the fire to these other pagan little "g" gods. But even though the story of Hosea starts out a cold and wicked story of betrayal, and deceit... the story of Hosea can teach a husband and wife the definition of the word... "love".

Gomer is woman who loves the things of this world. She has made herself a friend of this world, and just as it is written in James 4:4... he who makes himself a friend of this world... makes themselves an enemy of God. And so, Gomer bears Hosea several children, and then abandons them all, and leaves Hosea to not only support the children by himself... but to also preach and teach the people of Israel. Hosea clearly had his hands full. Hosea was a Prophet of God, and at the same time he had been abandon by his wife and left to tend to the children alone. And as the story goes... Gomer was passed around like the cheap golden jewelry that she so fervently sought after... until Gomer was all used up... and she wound up out on the street, pour and desolate. And in the end, she had lost all of her earthly possessions and was being sold as a slave. But you see the love of Hosea much like the love of our Father in Heaven.... Knew no bounds.

In the end Gomer finds herself sitting on a dirt floor being actioned off to the highest bidder. You can imagine how far she had fallen, and how ashamed that she must have felt. You can image the hopelessness and darkness that surrounded her, and how broken that she was that day. And yet... as she is in the process of being sold... out of the crowd steps her husband Hosea. And Hosea buys Gomer back for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a lethech of barley, just like our Father in Heaven bought back his beloved bride of Israel with the blood of his only begotten Son. Hosea 3:1

Hos 3:1 And the LORD said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love cakes of raisins."

Hos 3:2 So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a lethech of barley.

Hos 3:3 And I said to her, "You must dwell as mine for many days. You shall not play the whore, or belong to another man; so will I also be to you."

Hos 3:4 For the children of Israel shall dwell many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or pillar, without ephod or household gods.

Hos 3:5 Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God, and David their king, and they shall come in fear to the LORD and to his goodness in the latter days.

Let's turn to Jeremiah 3:8:

Jer 3:8 She saw that for all the adulteries of that faithless one, Israel, I had sent her away with a decree of divorce. Yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear, but she too went and played the whore.

Here in Jeremiah we see that our Father in Heaven divorces the House of Israel, and even though he divorces Israel... the House of Judah also plays the whore. So, neither the northern kingdom nor the southern kingdom loved God, nor did they stay faithful to him. And so, he sets them free and allows them to learn the wages of sin on their own. But just as Hosea buys back Gomer... so too does our Father buy back the House of Israel. He loves her so much... that his

love for her far surpasses the sins that she has committed against him. Jeremiah 31:31-34:

Jer 31:31 "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah,

Jer 31:32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD.

Jer 31:33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jer 31:34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

And so here in the story of Hosea and Gomer we see again the "Reality of Duality". Gomer had played the whore just like the children of Israel had played the whore... and yet even though our Father in Heaven divorced the House of Israel in Jeremiah 3:8... he loved her so much that he bought her back with the blood of his only begotten Son, so that she could be re-born a new bride with a new heart... that would be able to come back to her bridegroom.

So, if we understand this union between us and our Father... should we not understand the union between a man and his wife, and the power of love, and should we not extend our grace and our mercy to the one that we have been joined with? Where is the mercy and the grace of the married Christian couples of today? Let it be made clear to every Christian who is separated, or considering divorce... that God hates divorce. If we are to pick up our crosses and follow after our Messiah then we as men should love our wives as our Messiah loved the church. And let our sisters fully understand that it is written in Genesis 3:16 that your desire is to be for your husband. And it is written in Ephesians 5:22 that a woman is to submit to your own husbands as to the Lord. Ephesians 5:23 "For the husband is the head of the wife even as the Messiah is the head of the church". But today's modern-day professing Christians will laugh and mock what screams out of the pages of Gods breathed scriptures because today's modern-day Pharisees have taught them a "do as thou wilt is the whole of the law" doctrine of demons that comes directly from the gates of hell itself! What does God say about the man who divorces his wife? Let's read Malachi 2:16:

Mal 2:16 *"For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the LORD, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless."*

Now... with that all being said and understood... I would be lacking in my duty if I did not also present this next scripture to you, found in 1st Corinthians 7:8-17:

1Co 7:8 To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single as I

am.

1Co 7:9 But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

1Co 7:10 To the married I give this charge (not I, but the Lord): the wife should not separate from her husband

1Co 7:11 (but if she does, she should remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband), and the husband should not divorce his wife.

1Co 7:12 To the rest I say (I, not the Lord) that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her.

1Co 7:13 If any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever, and he consents to live with her, she should not divorce him.

1Co 7:14 For the unbelieving husband is made holy because of his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy because of her husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

1Co 7:15 But if the unbelieving partner separates, let it be so. In such cases the brother or sister is not enslaved. God has called you to peace.

1Co 7:16 For how do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?

1Co 7:17 Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches.

Now I want us to notice that Paul says in verse 10 “not I but the Lord” that the wife should not separate from her husband. So, let’s be clear... but then Paul turns right around in verse 12 and says (and I quote) “I, not the Lord”, and he goes on to say that if an unbeliever separates... let it be so... in such cases the brother or sister is not enslaved. So, in other words if your unbelieving pattern separates from you, then let it be so... you are not to be enslaved by someone who does not believe. Now why did Paul say, “I say this but not God”? Paul said this because he knows that according to the Torah this a provision for divorce. The Torah does allow a man to give his wife a certificate of divorce... but our Messiah tells us in the book of Matthew chapter 19 verse 8... that it was because of the hardness of man’s heart that Moses allowed divorce... but in the beginning, it was not so. So once again... notice what Paul tells us in verse 16:

1Co 7:16 For how do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?

1Co 7:17 Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches.

And so, all of these scriptures must be sought out and recognized by every Christian, and not only by those seeking divorce... but also by those seeking to be married.

My young brothers and sisters out there must know and understand the ramifications of being married. Paul tells us in 1st Corinthians 7:8 and 9 that “to the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single as I am. But... if they cannot exercise self-control...

they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.”

Let this be a warning to all the unmarried, and the widows who are our brothers and sisters. And if you do choose to marry... **DO NOT MARRY AND UNBELIEVER...** or one who is weak in the faith. If the person you are seeking to marry is not solidly grounded in the faith... **DO NOT MARRY THEM!** Unless you are prepared to become one flesh with that person in the eyes of God... do not, and I repeat... do not marry them. And I want you to think about that long and hard about what it is that I'm telling you. My sisters... know and understand that you will be expected to keep your desire for your husband and to submit to him as to the Lord. If you're not ready to do that... then do not take his hand in marriage. If he is not a God-fearing man, who has a deep-seated love for the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and his only begotten Son... stay away from him, and likewise I say to my brothers. If the woman you seek to marry is wavering, and wondering, and dabbling with the world, and has made herself a friend of this world... and is still dabbling in the paganism of Catholicism... do not take her hand in marriage. Put on the full armor of God, and pray for the discernment of God, and ask for the strength and the power to resist the temptation to enter into an un-holy union.

Genesis chapter 3 teaches us what it takes to keep a marriage together. Genesis chapter 3 teaches us what true love is. Genesis chapter 3 teaches us how to love one another and how to bind together as one flesh, and Genesis chapter 3 teaches us what happens when both parties of a marriage decide to turn away from God at the same time. And Genesis chapter 3 teaches us what a God ordained marriage is, and how it fits together in the eyes of God. The ramifications of a marriage that is not ordained by God... can be devastating.

For all who are considering being married... here is a word of wisdom... If your fiancée loves you more than they love God... don't marry them. If your fiancée loves God more than they love you... then and only then, can you rest assured that you have the right partner. And in the same manner, you should also make sure that you love God more than you love your fiancée. Because if you don't... you will also risk the chance of becoming another King Solomon.

And so as for the God ordained union of “marriage”... let Genesis chapter 3 be a guiding factor in our decisions when seeking both marriage and divorce. And let the voice of the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob speak loudly and boldly into our ears before we make what may, or may not be... a wreck less decision.

Next week we will continue on with our study into part 3 of Genesis chapter 3 as we dive into the first blood sacrifice found in the Torah.

