

## Principles of Marriage - Roly

So much has been written and said about a Biblical marriage, sadly much of it is man-made whose theories and ideas have become a mandated norm.

In order to stay within the Biblical boundaries we need to revert to scripture

### a) 1<sup>st</sup> Principle

#### YHVH determines that male and female will be one

in one of the very first acts of creation YHWH 'makes' mankind. We are explicitly told that this initial creation was both male and female. What did this look like--we don't know--was it a two faced conjoined body, was it merely the inner spiritual man and the emotions that were reallocated to different bodies?

**Gen 1:24-27** *“God said, “Let the earth bring forth each kind of living creature — each kind of livestock, crawling animal and wild beast”; and that is how it was. <sup>25</sup> God made each kind of wild beast, each kind of livestock and every kind of animal that crawls along the ground; and God saw that it was good.*

<sup>26</sup> *Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, in the likeness of ourselves; and let them rule over the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the animals, and over all the earth, and over every crawling creature that crawls on the earth.”*

<sup>27</sup> *So God created humankind in his own image; in the image of God he created him: male and female he created them.*

### b) 2<sup>nd</sup> Principle

YHVH divides that male and the female parts into two separate beings. This occurs when mankind realizes that he is searching for a companion.

**Gen 2:21-22** *“Then God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the person; and while he was sleeping, he took one of his ribs and closed up the place from which he took it with flesh. <sup>22</sup> The rib which Adonai, God, had taken from the person, he made a woman-person; and he brought her to the man-person.*

### c) 3<sup>rd</sup> Principle

Man, now separated from his “female” side , understands and knows that he needs to join again with Eve in order to become ONE

**Gen 2: 23-24** *“ The man-person said, “At last! This is bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh. She is to be called Woman <sup>[a]</sup>, because she was taken out of Man <sup>[a]</sup>.” <sup>24</sup> This is why a man is to leave his father and mother and stick with his wife, and they are to be one flesh.*

This act of joining together / cleaving is described as becoming ONE - In other words -- no other act of joining / coming together can be described as “coming together and becoming one (you may have a partnership /a marriage as described in legal terms, but never becoming ONE

#### d) 4<sup>TH</sup> Principle

Paul reveals the spiritual purpose of the institution called marriage -- he will show us that the earthly marriage is a picture / image of the Heavenly marriage between the Messiah and the Bride.

The man will “represent “ the Messiah and the wife will “represent” the Body of Messiah. Such a marriage therefore should be a perfect reflection of the ONE New Man. Consider this -- Paul is getting to the topic of marriage; firstly he defines the attributes of the individuals that make up this marriage.

#### “we will become renewed--a new man in Messiah”

**Eph 4:17-24** “Therefore I say this — indeed, in union with the Lord I insist on it: do not live any longer as the pagans live, with their sterile ways of thinking. <sup>18</sup> Their intelligence has been shrouded in darkness, and they are estranged from the life of God, because of the ignorance in them, which in turn comes from resisting God’s will. <sup>19</sup> They have lost all feeling, so they have abandoned themselves to sensuality, practicing any kind of impurity and always greedy for more. <sup>20</sup> But this is not the lesson you learned from the Messiah! <sup>21</sup> If you really listened to him and were instructed about him, then you learned that since what is in Yeshua is truth, <sup>22</sup> then, so far as your former way of life is concerned, you must strip off your old nature, because your old nature is thoroughly rotted by its deceptive desires; <sup>23</sup> and you must let your spirits and minds keep being renewed, <sup>24</sup> and clothe yourselves with the new nature created to be godly, which expresses itself in the righteousness and holiness that flow from the truth.

#### “we will learn not to grieve the Ruach”

**Eph 4:25-32** “Therefore, stripping off falsehood, **let everyone speak truth with his neighbor,**<sup>[a]</sup> because we are intimately related to each other as parts of a body. <sup>26</sup> **Be angry, but don’t sin**<sup>[b]</sup> — don’t let the sun go down before you have dealt with the cause of your anger; <sup>27</sup> otherwise you leave room for the Adversary.

<sup>28</sup> The thief must stop stealing; instead, he should make an honest living by his own efforts. This way he will be able to share with those in need.

<sup>29</sup> Let no harmful language come from your mouth, only good words that are helpful in meeting the need, words that will benefit those who hear them. <sup>30</sup> Don’t cause grief to God’s Ruach HaKodesh, for he has stamped you as his property until the day of final redemption. <sup>31</sup> Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, violent assertiveness and slander, along with all spitefulness. <sup>32</sup> Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted; and forgive each other, just as in the Messiah God has also forgiven you.

### “we will learn to walk in love”

**Eph 5:1-7** “So imitate God, as his dear children; <sup>2</sup> and live a life of love, just as also the Messiah loved us, indeed, on our behalf gave himself up as an offering, as a slaughtered sacrifice to God with a pleasing fragrance. <sup>3</sup> Among you there should not even be mentioned sexual immorality, or any kind of impurity, or greed; these are utterly inappropriate for God’s holy people. <sup>4</sup> Also out of place are obscenity and stupid talk or coarse language; instead, you should be giving thanks. <sup>5</sup> For of this you can be sure: every sexually immoral, impure or greedy person — that is, every idol-worshipper — has no share in the Kingdom of the Messiah and of God. <sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty talk; for it is because of these things that God’s judgment is coming on those who disobey him. <sup>7</sup> So don’t become partners with them!

### we will learn to walk in the light

**Eph 5.8-11** “For you used to be darkness; but now, united with the Lord, you are light. Live like children of light, <sup>9</sup> for the fruit of the light is in every kind of goodness, rightness and truth — <sup>10</sup> try to determine what will please the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Have nothing to do with the deeds produced by darkness, but instead expose them,

### we will learn to walk in wisdom

**Eph 5:15-21** “Therefore, pay careful attention to how you conduct your life — live wisely, not unwisely. <sup>16</sup> Use your time well, for these are evil days. <sup>17</sup> So don’t be foolish, but try to understand what the will of the Lord is.

<sup>18</sup> Don’t get drunk with wine, because it makes you lose control. Instead, keep on being filled with the Spirit — <sup>19</sup> sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to each other; sing to the Lord and make music in your heart to him; <sup>20</sup> always give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

<sup>21</sup> Submit to one another in fear of the Messiah.

### and its only AFTER this that we will have a marriage that will truly reflect the marriage with the bridegroom-Messiah

**Eph 5:22-32** “Wives should submit to their husbands as they do to the Lord; <sup>23</sup> because the husband is head of the wife, just as the Messiah, as head of the Messianic Community, is himself the one who keeps the body safe. <sup>24</sup> Just as the Messianic Community submits to the Messiah, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

<sup>25</sup> As for husbands, love your wives, just as the Messiah loved the Messianic Community, indeed, gave himself up on its behalf, <sup>26</sup> in order to set it apart for God, making it clean through immersion in the mikveh, so to speak, <sup>27</sup> in order to present the Messianic Community to himself as a bride to be proud of, without a spot, wrinkle or any such thing, but holy and without defect. <sup>28</sup> This is how husbands ought to love their wives — like their own bodies; for the man who loves his wife is loving himself. <sup>29</sup> Why, no one ever hated his own flesh! On the contrary, he feeds it well and takes care of it, just as the Messiah does the Messianic Community, <sup>30</sup> because we are parts of his Body. <sup>31</sup> **“Therefore a man will leave his father and mother and remain with his wife, and the two will become one.”**<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>32</sup> There is profound truth hidden here, which I say concerns the Messiah and the Messianic Community.

## **e) 5<sup>TH</sup> Principal marriage is a covenant /spiritual reality**

We have indicated that marriage is not only a physical manifestation of unity but clearly is also to be **transformed into a spiritual reality**.

That Covenant requires the sign of the flow of blood, to emulate the Covenant that YHVH made with Abraham

That covenant requires that 2 humans-(one male and one female) join together to become one so that they can form a stronger Covenant bond with YHVH as the Senior / Stronger Partner in the marriage

**HAVING ESTABLISHED THAT MARRIAGE HAS A SPIRITUAL PURPOSE, NAMELY TO REVEAL YHVH TO THE WORLD, WE SHOULD NOW DEFINE THE ATTRIBUTES OF THAT ARRANGEMENT**

### **1) For man and woman to become one we need; -**

1.1 A common goal/destination

1.2 A full commitment

1.3 A common set of values/and intimacy

### **2) For the marriage to be workable we need to develop a house build on the rock--on 5 pillars**

2.1 Love--the art of giving oneself

2.2 Trust--fidelity--honesty --good behaviour

2.3 Respect

2.4 Understanding

2.5 Faith

### **Prayer in respect of Adultery**

**Let's define adultery**

**Ex 20:14** "You shall not commit adultery.

**Lev 20:10** “If a <sup>b</sup>man commits adultery with the wife of<sup>f</sup> his neighbor, both the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.

**Ezek 16.32** “Adulterous wife, who receives strangers instead of her husband!

**Rom 7:2-3** “For <sup>e</sup>a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage.<sup>2 3</sup> Accordingly, <sup>f</sup>she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive.

**Jer 5:7-8** “How can I pardon you? Your children have forsaken me <sup>m</sup>and have sworn by those who are no gods. <sup>n</sup>When I fed them to the full, <sup>o</sup>they committed adultery <sup>p</sup>and trooped to the houses of whores. They were well-fed, lusty stallions, <sup>q</sup>each neighing <sup>r</sup>for his neighbor’s wife.

Adultery is defined as that act where **a man is intimately involved with a MARRIED woman**. This does not mean that its acceptable to cheat on your wife with an unmarried woman, however this is called sexual immorality, or fornication as a technical term in the Bible.

**The main reason for this is twofold:**

a) The married man is (using the parallel in Ephesians) a representative of Messiah the ultimate Bridegroom. Since God has a Covenant with us--and we expect God to honour and respect that Covenant, we should understand that our actions on earth are a mirror image of the Heavenly Kingdom.

b) The man in any relationship is expected to be a living example of the Covenantal Partner, by **providing, protection the bride**

Any man who willingly sins in this manner is directly impacting the image of Messiah

## **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, I acknowledge that have wandered far away from You and become deeply embroiled in an extra-marital affair, I have committed adultery, broken my marriage vows both to You and to my spouse and caused untold pain – and I am so sorry Lord and repent of all my sin and the evil consequences of my fleshy weakness

I come to You and declare my actions as sin and repent unconditionally for all of these ungodly actions.

I pray that You would disentangle the web of deceit, and lies that is woven through this adulterous relationship.

Father, I confess that I am weak in this area, but that is no excuse and I ask that in the power of the Holy Spirit You would help me to turn right away from this gross and evil sexual sin. Help me to overcome temptation and not to fall prey to the enticements of flesh lusts.

Help me to run from, and to break free from any sexual soul-ties that I have made - and I ask that You help me to resist all temptation and to help me make a complete break with this ungodly part of my life.

Purify my heart so that I am able me to turn away forever from this fleshly weakness and help me to no longer live for my own gratification but rather live in integrity with my spouse.

I pray that not only my actions, but the thoughts of my mind may be cleansed and made pure. Help my inner heart to be purified of all lustful imaginings, which could cause me to be led astray, and may I learn to bring into captivity every thought, in obedience of Christ.

### **For the other partner..**

Father, I have been deeply hurt and grieved because of my spouse's adultery and the pain at times is more than I can bear. It is so hard to come to terms with the fact that the one person in your life that you are closest to and have trusted implicitly, has betrayed the loving trust we have between us.

I lay my brokenness before You and pour out my heart to You, for I have no one to turn to Lord but You.. and I need Your comfort and healing touch to get through this tremendous sadness.

Father, in my heart I know that if I nurse this grief and continue to feel the grief which is likely to turn into sour bitterness and resentment.

Touch the areas deep within that are still raw with pain; bathe my wounds with Your love and peace, and bring me through this ordeal, stronger and more able to be of service to You.

Help me to forgive. I know that in my own strength this would be impossible, but I ask that You give me the sufficient grace to forgive their unfaithfulness.

Give us both fresh, new love for each other and may this evil that I have done not become a stumbling-block in our marriage but the start of a new closer fellowship with each other - and with You.

I ask in Y'shua's Name,

**AMEN**