

— Hebrews 3.4 —  
Kingdom Mini-Series 24  
**Treasuring Marriage**

*Heb 13.4 Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.*

**\* Recap**

**\* The word** “honorable” (*timios*) means what?

**\* The word** “undefiled” means what?

**\* How is** the marriage bed kept pure and clean?

**\* Why is** prizing marriage, assessing its priceless value, so important today?

**\* Why is** it important for us to go beyond “thou shalt not”?

**\* How does** our culture tend to view traditional marriage?

**\* Why must** we look deeply into God’s word, and seek to know and articulate how and why biblical marriage is so valuable, and exactly what we are giving away when we depart from it?

**\* Does God** need marriage, male and female, and sexual

propagation?

**\* God could** have made us like what?

*Job 38.4 “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? ... 7 When ... all the sons of God shouted for joy?”*

**\* What is** the question we should be asking?

**\* The answer** is woven throughout the \_\_\_\_\_, and is

all bound up in the fact that we are

\_\_\_\_\_.

**\* A big** part of being God’s image is what?

*Heb 1.3 And he [the Son] is the radiance of his [God’s] glory and the exact representation of his nature ...*

*2Cor 3.18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

**\* While there** are many essential aspects of God’s character, goes deeper into the Godness of God than his what?

*1John 4.8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.*

*Gen 1.27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over ... every living thing that moves on the earth.”*

**\* But God’s** love does not consist in “Whatever, whomever, however.” What does it consist in?

– **First**, God bound himself by what?

*Heb 6.17 Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, 18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation ...*

— **Second**, God did so toward those who corresponded to him as his \_\_\_\_\_, and yet were fundamentally

\_\_\_\_\_ from him, in that they were

\_\_\_\_\_.

*Psalm 8.3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, 4 what is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? 5 ... [Yet] you have crowned him with glory and honor. 6 ... You have put all things under his feet*

*Psalm 103.15 As for man, his days are like grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes. 16 For the wind passes over it, and it is gone ... 17 But the lovingkindness of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting ...*

\* **That means** our love to God will never be the same in kind as his love for us, for our love to God is and always will be a \_\_\_\_\_ to his love for us.

*1Jn 4.19 We love Him because He first loved us.*

*1Jn 4.10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

\* **If we** as God's images are going to image him by learning to love the way he loves, it will not be through \_\_\_\_\_, because our love back to him, is of a fundamentally \_\_\_\_\_ nature than his divine, first-love to us.

\* **This is** where the wonder of marriage shines forth: Marriage is our divinely created opportunity to learn to \_\_\_\_\_ like God loves, to \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves by oath to another for life, to love when it is not \_\_\_\_\_ or even deserved, to love someone who \_\_\_\_\_ to us as the image of God, and yet is fundamentally \_\_\_\_\_, not merely in the sense of being another person, but another \_\_\_\_\_ — someone who in many ways is a \_\_\_\_\_

and \_\_\_\_\_ to us, who not only looks different, but

in many ways \_\_\_\_\_ differently.

*Song 4.1 How beautiful you are, my darling ... Your eyes ... Your hair ... Your teeth ... Your lips ... Your neck ... Your breasts ... Your love ... Your garments ...*

*Prov 30.18 There are three things which are too wonderful for me, Yes, four which I do not understand: 19 The way of an eagle in the air, The way of a serpent on a rock, The way of a ship in the midst of the sea, And the way of a man with a maiden.*

\* **God speaks** of himself as wonderful, and he intends his mystery and wonder to what?

*Judges 13.18 And the Angel of the LORD said to him, "Why do you ask My name, seeing it is wonderful?"*

*Isaiah 9.6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given ... And His name will be called Wonderful ...*

*Col 2.2 ... attaining to ... the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ ...*

\* **In the** same way, God intends the mystery and wonder of the opposite sex to be a big part of what?

\* **In sum**, marriage is sheer

\_\_\_\_\_ on God's part, and \_\_\_\_\_ on ours.

\* **This is** why same-sex marriage, and indeed any departure from God's creational design in terms of sexes, relations, and desires, are not only wrong, but \_\_\_\_\_. All such

departures spurn the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

All such departures fail to tell the truth about \_\_\_\_\_

and \_\_\_\_\_ . They misconstrue the nature  
and

greatness of God's \_\_\_\_\_ , and they spurn  
the

priceless privilege of learning to  
\_\_\_\_\_ .