

# MARRIAGE CEREMONY

THERE CAN BE NO MORE JOYOUS CEREMONY THAN THIS WE NOW ENTER. MARRIAGE IS A NATURAL UNION, BUT A DIVINE INSTITUTION, ORDAINED OF GOD.

IT WAS ESTABLISHED, NOT BY MAN, BUT BY THE ETERNAL GOD AT CREATION AND DERIVES ITS AUTHORITY NOT FROM CIVIL CODES OF MAN, BUT FROM THE DIVINE LAWS OF GOD, IMMUTABLE AND UNCHANGEABLE. AT THE FOUNDATION OF THE PRESENT EVIL WORLD, MANKIND, BY REJECTING THE TREE OF LIFE, REJECTED THE GOVERNMENT AND THE IMMUTABLE LAWS OF GOD AND BUILT HIS OWN CIVILIZATION WITH ITS CUSTOMS AND LAWS RESPECTING MARRIAGE. GOD'S LAWS HOWEVER ARE IN FORCE WITHIN THE CHURCH, WHICH IS CALLED OUT TO BE SEPARATE FROM THE WORLD.

1 THEREFORE IT IS FITTING THAT WE SHOULD CONSIDER :

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## THE LAWS OF GOD GOVERNING THIS UNION, AS REVEALED IN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES :

WHEN GOD HAD CREATED THE FIRST MAN UPON THE EARTH, THE ETERNAL GOD SAID: "IT IS NOT GOOD THAT MAN SHOULD BE ALONE, I WILL MAKE AN HELP MEET FOR HIM, AND GOD BLESSED THEM, AND GOD SAID UNTO THEM, 'BE FRUITFUL, AND MULTIPLY, AND REPLENISH THE EARTH.'"

AND JESUS SAID, "FROM THE BEGINNING OF CREATION GOD MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE. FOR THIS CAUSE SHALL A MAN LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER, AND CLEAVE UNTO HIS WIFE, AND THEY TWO SHALL BE ONE FLESH; SO THEN THEY ARE NO MORE TWO, BUT ONE FLESH. WHAT THEREFORE GOD HATH JOINED TOGETHER LET NOT MAN PUT ASUNDER... AND HE SAID UNTO THE CHURCH: 'WHOEVER SHALL PUT AWAY HIS WIFE, AND MARRY ANOTHER, COMMITTS ADULTERY AGAINST HER.'"

AND IF A WOMAN SHALL PUT AWAY HER HUSBAND, AND SHALL BE MARRIED TO ANOTHER, SHE COMMITTS ADULTERY."

(MARK 10:4-9, 11-12)

THUS IT IS REVEALED THAT WITHIN THE CHURCH IT IS OR SETTING APART, IS BY LAYING ON OF HANDS, I NOW JOIN YOUR RIGHT HANDS, AND BY THE LAYING ON OF MY HANDS, ASK THE ETERNAL GOD TO UNITE YOU AS HUSBAND AND WIFE. LET US KNEEL (BRIEF PRAYER) LET US RISE - BY THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS CHRIST, I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU HUSBAND AND WIFE!

THIS MARRIAGE THEREFORE IS BOUND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF HEAVEN.

## GOD'S SCRIPTURAL INSTRUCTION REGARDING THE MARRIAGE STATE :

DO YOU THEN AND YOU

SUBMIT YOURSELVES ONE TO ANOTHER IN THE FEAR OF GOD. WIVES, SUBMIT YOURSELVES UNTO YOUR OWN HUSBANDS, AS UNTO THE LORD. FOR THE HUSBAND IS THE HEAD OF THE WIFE, EVEN AS CHRIST IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH: ... THEREFORE AS THE CHURCH IS SUBJECT UNTO CHRIST, SO LET THE WIVES BE TO THEIR OWN HUSBANDS IN EVERYTHING.

## COVENANT WITH GOD

IN THE PRESENCE OF THESE WITNESSES, TO TAKE

TO BE YOUR LAWFUL WEDDED

WIFE, AND TO CLEAVE TO HER UNTO DEATH - TO LOVE HER, CHERISH HER, HONOR HER, AND PROVIDE FOR HER?

HUSBAND, FOR THE REMAINDER OF YOUR NATURAL LIFE, AND, AS GOD HAS ORDAINED, TO SUBMIT YOURSELF UNTO HIM AS UNTO THE ETERNAL, TO BE SUBJECT TO HIM IN EVERYTHING AND TO RESPECT HIM?

YOUR ANSWER: I DO.

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HUSBANDS, LOVE YOUR WIVES, EVEN AS CHRIST LOVED THE CHURCH, AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR IT; THAT HE MIGHT SANCTIFY AND CLEANSE IT WITH THE WASHING OF WATER BY THE WORD, THAT HE MIGHT PRESENT IT TO HIMSELF A GLORIOUS CHURCH, NOT HAVING SPOT OR WRINKLE, OR ANY SUCH THING; BUT THAT IT MIGHT BE HOLY AND WITHOUT BLEMISH. SO OUGHT MEN TO LOVE THEIR WIVES. ... LET EVERYONE OF YOU IN PARTICULAR SO LOVE HIS WIFE EVEN AS HIMSELF;

AND THE WIFE SEE THAT SHE (DEEPLY) RESPECTS HER HUSBAND. (EPH. 5:2-25, 33) "LIKEWISE, YOU WIVES BE IN SUBJECTION TO YOUR OWN HUSBANDS, ... EVEN AS SARAH OBEYED ABRAHAM, CALLING HIM LORD: WHOSE DAUGHTERS YOU ARE, AS LONG AS YOU DO WELL...."

LIKEWISE, YOU HUSBANDS DWELL WITH THEM ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGE, GIVING HONOR UNTO THE WIFE, AS UNTO THE WEAKER VESSEL, AND AS BEING HEIRS TOGETHER OF THE GRACE OF LIFE, THAT YOUR PRAYERS BE NOT HINDERED." (1 PE 3:11, 6-7)

SINCE MARRIAGE IS A DIVINE INSTITUTION, AND WE ARE ASKING GOD TO JOIN YOU AS HUSBAND AND WIFE, IT IS FITTING AND RIGHT THAT EACH OF YOU SHOULD FAITHFULLY PROMISE BEFORE GOD TO ACCEPT THE SACRED MARRIAGE COVENANT ACCORDING TO THE DIVINELY ORDAINED CONDITIONS IMPOSED BY ALMIGHTY GOD.

## ETERNAL GOD

TO UNITE YOU AS HUSBAND AND WIFE. LET US KNEEL (BRIEF PRAYER) LET US RISE - BY THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS CHRIST, I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU HUSBAND AND WIFE!

DATE: . . .

MINISTER