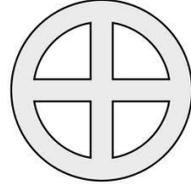


MAT-MAR-BON-CHRIST MISSION

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“Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest.” -Mathew-11:28)

Marriage, Work and Family through Biblical Scriptures

Gen: 1: 26-27 - God created man in his own image male and female created he them.

Gen: 2:20 – After the creation of Adam, every living creature was brought before him to receive its name; he saw that to each had been given a companion, but among them “there was not found an help meet for him.”

Gen: 2:18 – And “God said, It is not good that the man should be alone: I will make him an help meet for him.” God himself gave Adam a companion. He provided “an help meet for him,” - a helper corresponding to him, - one who was fitted to be his companion, and who could be one with him in love and sympathy. Eve was created from a rib taken from the side of Adam, signifying that she was not to control him as the head, not to be trampled under his feet as an inferior, but to stand by his side as an equal, to be loved and protected by him. A part of man, bone of his bone, and flesh of his flesh, she was his second self, showing the close union and the affectionate attachment that should exist in this relation.

Eph: 5:29, Gen: 2:24 - “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and is united with his wife, and they shall be one.” God celebrated the first marriage. Thus the institution has for its originator the Creator of the Universe. **Heb: 13:4 – “Marriage is honorable,” it was one of the first gifts of God to man, and it is one of the two institutions that, after the fall, Adam brought with him beyond the gates of paradise.**

Gen: 2:1-3, 1:31 – In six days the great work of creation had been accomplished. And God “rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it; because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made. Following the example of the Creator, man was to rest upon this sacred day, that as he should look upon the heavens and the earth, his heart might be filled with love and reverence for his Maker.

In Eden, God set up the memorial of his work of creation, in placing his blessing upon the seventh day. The Sabbath was committed to Adam, the father and representative of the whole human family. Its observance was to be an act of grateful acknowledgment, on the part of all who should dwell upon the earth, that God was their Creator and their rightful sovereign; that they were the work of His hands, and the subjects of his authority. Thus the institution was wholly commemorative, and given to all mankind.

God appointed work as a blessing to man, to occupy his mind, to strengthen his body, and to develop his faculties. In mental and physical activity, Adam found one of the highest pleasures of holy existence. And when, as a result of his disobedience, he was driven from his beautiful home Eden, and forced to struggle with a stubborn soil to gain his daily bread, that very work, although widely different from his pleasant occupation in the garden, was a safeguard against temptation, and a source of happiness. Those who regard work as a curse, attended though it be with weariness and pain, are cherishing an error. The rich often looked down with contempt upon the working classes; but this is wholly at variance with God's purpose in creating man. Where are the possessions of even the most wealthy, in comparison with the heritage given to the lordly Adam? Yet Adam was not to be idle. Our Creator, who understands what is for man's happiness, appointed Adam his work. The true joy of life is found only by the working men and women. The angels are diligent workers; they are the ministers (servants) of God to the children of men. The Creator has prepared no place for the stagnating practice of indolence. Nature is the servant of her Creator. John: 5 : 17 – Jesus answered them, "My father is always working; and I too must work."

Idleness is the greatest curse that can fall upon man; for vice and crime follow in its series. It enfeebles the mind, perverts the understanding, and debases the soul. Satan lies in ambush, ready to destroy those who are unguarded, whose leisure gives him opportunity to insinuate himself under some attractive disguise. He is never more successful than when he comes to men in their idle hours.

Ephesians: 6:1-4 – Children, it is your Christian duty to obey your parents, for this is the right thing to do. Respect your father and mother is the first commandment that has a promise added; so that all may go well with you, and you may live a long time in the land."

Parents, do not treat your children in such a way as to make them angry. Instead, bring them up with Christian discipline and instruction.

Ephesians: 5: 22-28 – Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For a husband has authority over his wife just as Christ has authority over the church; and Christ is himself the saviour of the church, his body. And so wives must submit completely to their husbands just as the church submits itself to Christ.

Husbands, love your wives just as Christ loved the Church and gave his life for it. He did this to dedicate the Church to God by his word, after making it clean by washing it in water, in order to present the church to himself in all its beauty- pure and faultless, without spot or wrinkle or any other imperfection. Men ought to love their wives just as they love their own bodies. A man loves his wife loves himself.

Ephesians: 5:33 – But it also applies to you; every husband must love his wife as himself, and every wife must respect her husband. It is not good for men to separate themselves after God united them through marriage.