

Satan's Marriage Doctrines

Marriage is the best training situation for our future relationship with Jesus Christ in the Kingdom of God.

This is the major reason why Satan hates marriage and is seeking to destroy this intimate relationship by lying doctrines.

Many marriages, even among Christians, are a hypocritical pretence of happiness in public, while behind closed doors they're arguing, hurt, stubborn silence or even feelings of hatred.

All this unpleasant relationship stems from accepting Satan's doctrines of marriage that are well broadcasted in society through films based on family relationships and T.V. "soaps" that are accepted as normal family life.

We cannot escape Satan's attempt to influence our marriage in this society that is ruled by him at this time, but we can minimise this influence, [read **1 John 5:19; 2 Corinthians 4:4; John 8:43-44**]

We need to be aware of things that can help us resist this powerful influence that Satan has on this present society and especially marriage.

In this article I seek to expose Satan's marriage doctrines as the lies that they are.

First let us examine what the Christian Bible tells us about basic principles that make a good and happy marriage union.

The marriage relationship is God-ordained **not** human.

Genesis 2:7 [NIV] *"the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being."*

God created the first human being, Adam.

Genesis 2:15-17 [NIV] *"The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."*

The Creator God instructed Adam as to how he should live.

Genesis 2:18 [NIV] *"The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."*

The basis for the marriage relationship is being given by the Creator God.

"Not good" [v18] not best for Adam's welfare to be alone [Hebrew "tôwb" referring to welfare].

"Help meet" Hebrew "ezer" to aid from a root word meaning to surround and bring relief in difficulties or times of distress.

Genesis 2:21-23 [NIV] *"So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman', for she was taken out of man."*

Adam could have only understood this as the result of unrecorded teaching by the Creator God about the reason for this marriage union.

Genesis 2:24-25 [NIV] *“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.”*

“For this reason” what God was going to say is related to Adam and Eve being created of the same origin, same body with its weakness and frailty, same flesh, Hebrew “bâsâr”.

Ephesians 5:28 [NIV] *“In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.”*

Paul reminds us that a husband and wife are looked on as one body.

1 Corinthians 6:15-17 [NIV] *“Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.”*

In the same way we as Christians are spiritually united with Jesus Christ, our future husband. **[Revelation 19:6-8]**

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 [NIV] *“Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body.”*

We honour our future husband Jesus Christ by remaining faithful to our marriage partner for we are already, both husband and wife, united spiritually to Jesus Christ.

“Cleave” [King James] “united” [NIV] Hebrew “dâbaq” meaning to be stuck together as with glue, pursue hard after then be joined together.

Husband’s duty in this union –

Proverbs 5:18-19 [NIV] *“May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. A loving doe, a graceful deer, may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be captivated by her love.”*

We should always rejoice in this union.

Ecclesiastes 9:9-10 [NIV] *“Enjoy life with your wife, whom you love, all the days of this meaningless life that God has given you under the sun, all your meaningless days. For this is your lot in life and in your toilsome labour under the sun. Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.”*

We should always work at making this union successful.

Mark 10:7-9 [NIV] *“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.”*

Never allow another person to break this union with your wife.

1 Corinthians 7:10-11 [NIV] *“To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.”*

Divorce must **not** enter into the mind once the union has been made between a man and a woman.

Ephesians 5:25-27 [NIV] *“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.”*

A husband must be willing to sacrifice his own desires so that his wife may be well prepared to be part of the Christian group who will become the marriage partner of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 3:7 [NIV] *“Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.”*

The husband’s eternal life and his prayers are linked with the way he prepares his wife for that spiritual union with Jesus Christ, because they are heirs together.

Wife’s duties in this union –

Proverbs 31:27 [NIV] *“She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.”*

The main job of a wife is in the home [read all of this chapter for details as to how.]

1 Corinthians 7:10 [NIV] *“To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband.”*

A wife must remain faithful to her husband.

Ephesians 5:22 [NIV] *“Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.”*

The marriage relationship is a preparation situation for the wife, looking forward to a similar spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ.

1 Timothy 3:11 [NIV] *“In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.”*

This must be the supportive attitude of a wife of any man whom God chooses to use in His church fellowship as a leader.

Titus 2:3-5 [NIV] *“Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no-one will malign the word of God.”*

The very important role of mature Christian women.

1 Peter 3:1-2 [NIV] *“Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behaviour of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.”*

Even wives of husbands who are **not** yet Christians should be submissive to their husbands, so that their conduct could be a means that God may wish to use to bring their husband to believe in Him as their Saviour.

With the above duties of both partners in the marriage in our minds, let us see the destructive doctrines that Satan will use to try to break up this union.

Genesis 3:1 [NIV] *“Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”*

Satan uses his most powerful weapon, doubt in God’s words or promises, to seduce the “weaker” partner. [1 Peter 3:7]

Genesis 3:2-6 [NIV] *“The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’” “You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.”*

Satan seduced Eve in two ways:

- a) Doubt in what her Creator God had said and commanded.
- b) Defied her husband who must have instructed her about this command of God.

Satan then completed this seduction by using his second most powerful weapon, human pride.

Adam then fell also for Satan’s lie and followed Eve’s example instead of correcting her actions knowing they were open rebellion against their Creator, [Ephesians 5:25-29; 1 Peter 3:7].

Genesis 3:7 [NIV] *“Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realised that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.”*

A vain attempt to cover their guilt. A covering that would not last more than 48 hours.

Genesis 3:8-13 [NIV] *“Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?” He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.” And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman you put here with me — she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”*

Satan does **not** want us to admit our sins to our Creator God, but to try to cover them, so he will fill our minds with a flood of reasons for our actions, that are beyond our personal control.

Adam blamed Eve and God, Eve blamed the serpent [Satan **Revelation 12:7-9**], Satan doesn’t care for his work of division is being done for him by rebellious human beings themselves.

This is the first lie in Satan’s doctrine of marriage.

If we are unhappy in our marriage it is **not** our fault but that of our partner, or even blame God for giving us our partner.

Result of falling for this lie is accusations, anger, pain, suffering and the marriage never being as good a relationship as before.

Genesis 12:10-12 [NIV] *“Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, “I know what a beautiful woman you are. When the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ Then they will kill me but will let you live. Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated*

well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.” When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that she was a very beautiful woman. And when Pharaoh’s officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace. He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, menservants and maidservants, and camels. But the LORD inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram’s wife Sarai. So Pharaoh summoned Abram. “What have you done to me?” he said. “Why didn’t you tell me she was your wife? Why did you say, ‘She is my sister,’ so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!” Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.”

Even Abraham was deceived by Satan into a situation that was totally disobedient to his Creator.

To save his own skin Abraham literally told Sarah to commit adultery.

There is **no** record of Sarah protesting.

Pharaoh had great prestige and most likely good looks, so Sarah was quite willing for him to try to give her the baby she wanted and Abraham had failed to give her, and she was 70 years old.

End result – Abraham and all his family expelled out of Egypt in a time of famine in his own land.

Genesis 16:1-6 [NIV] *“Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian maidservant named Hagar; so she said to Abram, “The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my maidservant; perhaps I can build a family through her.” Abram agreed to what Sarai said. So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian maidservant Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. He slept with Hagar, and she conceived. When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. Then Sarai said to Abram, “You are responsible for the wrong I am suffering. I put my servant in your arms, and now that she knows she is pregnant, she despises me. May the LORD judge between you and me.” “Your servant is in your hands,” Abram said. “Do with her whatever you think best.” Then Sarai ill-treated Hagar; so she fled from her.”*

This is record of Sarah attempting to get this baby by proxy.

Sarah offered her young and attractive Egyptian maid to Abraham in an attempt to have a child.

No record of Abraham protesting that it was wrong.

This ended up in a flaming row and division in the family that has lasted up to this very day in the conflict between Jews and Arabs.

Disobedience to the God-given laws in marriage will always end in pain and heartache.

If and when we have relationship problems in our marriage it is very likely we have been letting Satan into our marriage by allowing his doctrines of marriage to influence us.

How do we counter this Satanic lie of blaming our partners for the problem?

1 Peter 4:8 [NIV] *“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.”*

Even if our mate is more to blame for the problem, we are to continue to love them.

This love is a very special love, the Greek word used is “*agapé*” meaning a love that is spontaneous, irrespective of the rights or response of the object of that love.

This love is beyond human capacity and is one of the “*fruits*” of the Holy Spirit in our lives. **[Galatians 5:22-26]**

The same sacrificial love that Jesus Christ has for all of humanity.

1 Peter 2:21-23 [NIV] *“To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.”*

Do not respond to threats or insults, thus following the example of Jesus Christ.

Satan’s lie number 2 –

“We should always stand up for our rights.”

We all as human beings like things to go our way, we desire to be the centre of attention.

To ensure this, to a lesser or greater degree, we have a “*power struggle*” in our marriage.

Satan will fill our minds with a great variety of reactions when we do **not** get our own way in our relationship.

- a) Lose our temper.
- b) Refuse to co-operate with our mate.
- c) Go silent.
- d) Complain or nag.
- e) Manipulate the situation so that what our mate desires will **not** happen.

We like to think that the above will help us to win, but if we win our mate will lose.

We have forgotten that we are “*one flesh*” so **we both lose**, for such a response will only add fuel to the dispute.

How do we counter this doctrine of Satan?

Philippians 2:1-5 [NIV] *“If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:”*

Simply put, allow the mind of Jesus Christ to be our mind.

Philippians 2:6-8 [NIV] *“Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross!”*

We respond to our partner even as Jesus Christ has to us, willingly laying down His life for our salvation.

Satan’s lie number 3 –

“I have done all that is possible to make our marriage a success.”

“I have prayed” – but was it only to ask God to change our mate or take our side in the dispute?

“I have put up with more things than any normal person could be expected to do” – but as a Christian we are **not** a “normal person”, we are being prepared by the Creator God to become a created child of His who will be offered the gift of eternal life.

That makes us a very special person whom God wants to use our marriage as a training ground for our eternal life.

Failure in our physical marriage now could be that we fail to be invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb, Jesus Christ. [**Revelation 19:6-9**]

This is how important marriage relationships are now.

Matthew 22:2-5 [NIV] *“The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. “Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’ “But they paid no attention and went off, one to his field, another to his business.”*

Our attitude towards our physical marriage now is telling Jesus Christ what our attitude would be towards a marriage with Him.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 [NIV] *“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.”*

Until we can honestly stand before our Creator and say we have this kind of love for our marriage partner we cannot say we have done all we can to build our marriage.

This is also a good guide towards our feeling for anyone we desire to marry, including Jesus Christ!

Satan’s lie number 4 –

“Marriage is a romantic dream where two people live together happily ever after.”

Too often young people look at marriage through rose tinted glasses, more interested in romance than reality.

Ancient proverb – *“Do not choose your wife at a dance, but in the field among the harvesters.”*

Romantic moonlight walks hand in hand with a boy or girl of your choice seems wonderful but is unreal.

A crying baby with teething troubles and a raw behind will make a moonlight walk impossible but it is far more realistic.

A leaking roof that needs expensive repairs puts paid to any romantic week in a country cottage.

Then there are dirty socks, spaghetti-stained dishes, rumped beds to make, big heating bills to meet and the rise in the cost of food.

Satan will use simple day-to-day things in his attempt to divide a husband and wife, and will blind engaged couples to such things before the marriage.

Jesus Christ is very honest about what is ahead for all who are engaged to be married to Him, in this physical life.

Luke 14:26-27, 33 [NIV] *“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters, yes, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.” ... “In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.”*

Jesus Christ expects total commitment to the future marriage to Him, so expects to see that total commitment in our physical marriages now.

Satan’s lie number 5 –

“Marriage is getting rather than giving.”

Society emphasises the three “Bs” – beauty, brains and brawn for a success in marriage.

Rather than the three “Ls” – love, loyalty and lowliness, in a marriage relationship.

One subtle variation of the above emphasis in society is the barter system.

A husband or wife makes it plain that they are willing to give something but expects to receive something in exchange as a reward.

You know what I mean, I do not have to elaborate.

True love makes **no** such demands but enjoys giving without expecting any reward in exchange, only then will a marriage blossom and mature.

Satan’s lie number 6 –

“Even though you are married you should be able to do your own thing.”

Independence in marriage may seem attractive but actually results in **no** marriage at all.

We don’t lose our individuality but we become interdependent rather than independent.

God intended each partner in a marriage to complement the other.

Satan’s lie number 7 –

“Men and women are alike and are to be treated alike.”

Apart from the obvious physical differences, there is a difference in the orientation of the mind of a man or woman, each can complement the other if this is understood and acted on, bringing with it harmony in the marriage union.

Titus 2:3-5 [NIV] *“Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no-one will malign the word of God.”*

“Busy at home” – a woman’s mind naturally centres on the home and family.

Genesis 3:16 [NIV] *“To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”*

The Hebrew word translated “desire” is “*tshûwqâh*” meaning reaching out after and a longing.

The Creator God built into a woman's mind a natural desire for family including her husband.

Genesis 3:19 [NIV] *“By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”*

The natural desire in the mind of a husband is to work to provide and protect his wife and family.

Remember God created Eve out of a rib that is under his arm, indicating a needed protection **not** from Adam's foot to be trodden on.

Married couples who do **not** understand these differences in a man and woman could easily be seen as *“income-patable”*, the man **not** earning the *“income”* the wife feels he should and the husband feels the wife is **not** *“patable”* when he needs her to be!

Love in marriage will teach a wife that her husband's masculinity [firm male leadership] will be enhanced by her femininity [soft, pliable submission].

Love in marriage will teach a husband that his tender and sensitive assertion of his masculinity will enhance the wife's femininity.

There is no competition, for each complements the other.

Summary of Satan's lies –

1) If we are unhappily married blame our partner –

Remember Jesus Christ was the innocent party, yet He was willing to lay down His life for His future wife, the Christian church.

2) We should always stand up for our *“rights”* –

Remember a husband and wife are one unit in God's eyes, both lose out when one demands their *“rights”*.

3) I've done all that I can –

Read **1 Corinthians 13:1-8** with an open mind.

4) Marriage is like a romantic dream –

Satan will use simple realities to drive a wedge between a husband and wife.

5) Marriage is getting rather than giving –

Nor is marriage a barter system, never believe the themes of this world's popular songs.

6) We should still in marriage be able to do our *“own thing”* –

Marriage **doesn't** take away our independent personality but through our complementing our mate makes us interdependent on one another.

7) Husbands and wives are alike and should be treated alike –

There are more than physical differences between a man and woman, each is orientated in a different direction in their interests but this will complement the union.

Now stop reading and meditate on these lies to see if you have any in your marriage. If so you are co-operating with Satan to destroy this training opportunity for your future marriage relationship with Jesus Christ.

You may have been co-operating with Satan in ignorance, but ignorance is now **no** excuse.

Don't expect your mate to make the first step to avoid continuing to weaken your marriage union.

Keep in mind that every problem in your marriage is Satanically inspired.

Don't just point out your mate's weaknesses, let your love cover their sins.

Don't make the mistake of becoming discouraged if you don't see instant results for no-one changes a deeply embedded attitude overnight.

Remember success in improving your marriage depends on a change in your mental and emotional attitude.

Romans 12:1-2 [NIV] *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

Surrender our lives to Jesus Christ, so that the Holy Spirit will help us to make new our attitude towards our marriage, so as to conform to what our Creator God tells us will lead to a happy and fulfilled marriage.

Satan will make any change in our marriage difficult for he is the real enemy of our marriage and he would like to destroy it.

But always remember that Jesus Christ is longing for us to use our physical marriage to prepare us for our future spiritual marriage to Him.

1 John 4:1-6 [NIV] *“Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognise the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognise the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.”*

With the more powerful Holy Spirit working in and through us the lying spirit, Satan [**John 8:44**] will **not** be able to destroy our marriage when it is guided by God's Word, the Christian Bible.