

**Sermon Notes**

**Providence Community Church**

4-26-15 Ken Carlton

**Title: 1 MAN, 1 WOMAN UNDER GOD**

**Main Text:** Matthew 19:1-12

**Sermon Description:** Matthew Henry died in 1714, but the following words could have been written yesterday... “If we consider what mischiefs to families and states, what confusions and disorders, would follow upon arbitrary divorces, we shall see how much this law of Christ is for our own benefit, and what a friend Christianity is to our secular interests.” There were no bakeries closing down in the 18<sup>th</sup> century for refusing to cater a so called 'homosexual wedding' ceremony. There was no suffocating welfare state subsidizing a culture of pathological covenant breaking. There were no arrests on the streets of the west for merely quoting the Old Testament scriptures. There was no ACLU campaign to purge court houses and public squares of artifacts memorializing transcendent law. There was no supreme court presuming the authority to define marriage according to the arbitrary whim of the God-mocking state..... So what was the secret of this insight ringing so clear from 200 years ago, and from a Puritan, no less!!? Answer: Henry's thinking was not shaped by the winds of culture, but instead by the timelessly relevant, invariable, immutable, inevitable Word of God such as we find in Matthew 19:1-12

**Heading: DISTINCTIONS NECESSARY TO UNDERSTAND MARRIAGE...**

**1. CROWDS VS. CRITICS** (Mt 19:1-3)

a. Followers

b. Pharisees

**2. CONTEXT VS. CULTURE** (Mt 18, Is 50:1-2, Deut 24:1-4)

a. Cultural controversy

b. A theological reality

c. Prior parable

**3. COMMAND VS. CONCESSION** (Mt 19:4-9, Deut 31:24-29)

a. Author

b. Authority

c. Application

**4. CYNICISM VS. COMMITMENT** (Mt 19:10-12)

a. Biblical Singleness

b. Attitudes excluded

**Close:** There are two ways to demonstrate the timelessness of Jesus teaching/God's law for marriage. We can reflect His word as gospel salt and light – or provide exhibit 'A' for divine judgement. For the sake of the kingdom of Heaven, may we willingly be outcasts in this culture of celebrated profanation till death do us part, remembering and proclaiming Christ will never leave or forsake His bride.

**FAMILY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
Theme: Follower vs. Pharisee	Theme: God vs. divorce	Theme: Commands	Theme: Sin	Theme: Kingdom commitment	Theme: forgiveness
Verses: Mt 19:1-3	Verses: Is 50:1-2	Verses: Mt 19:4-9	Verses: Deut 31:24-29	Verses: Mt 19:10-12	Verses: Mt 18:23-35

**FURTHER STUDY:** see 'Excerpts' posted weekly at providencecrosslake.com

**NEXT WEEK:** Heb 3:7-18