

Doctrinal Studies

Love

1. Love falls into three categories:

A. Category One: Love toward God. Deut. 6:5 *"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."* Rom. 8:35 *"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"* I John 4:9 *"In this was manifested the love of God toward us. Because that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him."*

B. Category Two: Husband and wife love. Song of Solomon 8:6,7 *"Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame."* Vs. 7 – *"Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be despised-rejected."*

C. Category Three: Friendship love. John 15:13 *"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."* In II Samuel 1:26, David mourns the death of Jonathan. *"I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan; very pleasant hast thou been unto me, thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women."* (Category #2)

2. There is great strength in 'husband - wife love' – again revealed by the Song of Solomon 8:6,7 Love is as strong as death and cannot be quenched.

3. God planned happiness in sex love to be found in the right person. Proverbs 5:18,19 *"Let thy fountain (sex life) be blessed (permanently) and rejoice (take pleasure) with the wife of thy youth (vigor). Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe (she goat); let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love."*

4. Love is exclusive – special. Proverbs 15:17 *"Better is a dinner of herbs (vegetables) were love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith (whole fat for dinner)."*

Doctrinal Studies

Love

(Continued)

5. Love is protective: Song of Solomon 1:2,3 *"Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth: for thy love is better than wine."* That's occupation with the shepherd's lover. Verse 3: *"Because of the savor of thy good ointments thy name (character) is as ointment poured forth, therefore do the virgins love thee."* Song of Solomon 4:5,6 *"Thy two breasts are like two young roes that are twins which feed among the lilies. Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, I will get me to the mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of frankincense."* Memory. Song of Solomon 2:4 *"He brought me to the banqueting house and his banner over me was love."*
6. Marriage ordained by our Heavenly Father is used as an analogy of the Lord and Israel. Jeremiah 2,3; Ezek 16,23; The Lord and Church. Eph. 5:22,23
7. Wrong attitudes attack all areas of life including marriage – mental attitude sins – jealousy, strife, bitterness, nit picking and/or pride. Song of Solomon 8:6 *"Jealousy is cruel as the grave..."* Jealousy, mental attitude sin, always equals enemies to a happy marriage.
8. God ordained planned marriage. Since God did the original planning, then certainly we should know that His specific plan for us is best! Proverbs 18:22 *"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor in the Lord."* Literally, *"whosoever find his right wife receives grace from the Lord"*.
9. God set aside a time for love. Ecclesiastes 3:8; *"A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace."* Ecclesiastes 3:2-7 ²*"There is a time to be born, and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to pluck up that which is planted. ³A time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up. A time for war and a time to heal. ⁴A time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance. ⁵A time to cast away stones (clear the fields) and a time to gather stones together (to build houses); a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing."*

Doctrinal Studies

Love

(Continued)

10. Some things that can destroy marriage: alcohol, jealousy, drugs, mental attitude sins, social and overt immorality.
11. God has given man these gifts:
 - A. Salvation – Christ did it.
 - B. Woman – Christ constructed her.
 - C. Spiritual food; the Word – Christ thought it.
12. The oldest gift to man was woman. Gen 2:18 God gave Eve to Adam before salvation became necessary. Eccl. 9:9 *"Love, joyfully with the wife (Ishah - right woman) whom thou lovest (cal. pf. keep loving) all the days of the life of thy vanity (vapour, emptiness). (A man can be unsuccessful in all things in life, yet be right with his right woman and can go right on living in great happiness) which he (God) hath given thee under the sun (in life). If a lost person has his right companion, he can have a happy relationship in life in the midst of very bad circumstances.*
13. The importance of a right husband/wife relationship is presented in Proverbs 5:1-23; Proverbs 6:20-32; I Corinthians 11:3-16; Jeremiah 31:22 presents Israel as an unfaithful wife. Judah is involved in fornication and idolatry. Jeremiah has a broken heart. *"Until when wilt thou go about, from one to another, o thou backsliding, rebellious daughter (one man to another presents the ill of Israel. Gen 1:26,27; Gen. 5:1,2; Gen 2:7,18-25 presents the origin of man and wife. "For the Lord hath created (cal. Pf. bara) a new thing", (first gift God gave was woman) the second gift was the cross. Jeremiah 31:22 "A woman shall compass a man or a female shall fit her hero." Presented also in I Cor. 11:3-16*
14. Bad attitudes will destroy marriage. Proverbs 5; Song of Solomon 8:8
15. A Christian marriage can be destroyed by non-perception of God's Word. Jeremiah 15:8,9,15-21; 16:1,2; 17:9-11; 12:7-9

Doctrinal Studies

Love

(Continued)

16. The Word of God presents husband/wife relationship to give other doctrines: The unfaithful, immoral – Judah 2, 3, 13; Ezek. 16:23, The Lord and the Church - Eph. 5:20-33. Christian growth – James 1:19-22, I Peter 2:25 and 3:1, man is shepherd. Christ is the Great Shepherd. In I Cor. 11:7, the woman is the glory of the man, just as the body of believers is designed to glorify Christ in maturity.
17. God ordained marriage and makes society stable by Godly marriages: Hebrews 13:4 *"Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge."* I Cor. 7:9 *"But if they cannot contain, let them marry; for it is better to marry than to burn."* I Timothy 5:14, *"I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully. For some (women) have already turned aside after Satan."* Romans 7:2,3 *"For the woman which hath a husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man."* Eph. 5:22, 25, 28, 31, 33
18. A wife is an expression of God's grace. *"A foolish son is the calamity of his father: and the contentions of a wife are a continual dropping. House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the Lord."* Proverbs 19:13, 14