

My opinion and understanding of Marriage
submitted by: Patricia Gould (26)

How do I interpret what scripture says about marriage? In scripture it used to be OK to have multiple wives, be given your wife's slave in her place and for your wife to be your property. These are now widely accepted to be not the way marriage should be. If there is Love for each other in the hearts of all partners involved gender should mean nothing. Let Love be accepted and celebrated!

How do I understand the theological significance of gender difference in marriage? The gender difference in marriage was also a difference in society. With today's society the balance in marriage must also be updated so both partners are equal. The woman can be a home maker or a working mom, same with the father. If a child has Two Mothers or Two Fathers the child still has the support of two parents. There are humans who should never be allowed to become parents, but if they meet up with a partner of the opposite gender it is allowed to happen. Gender does not limit or change the nature of love and support.

Is there a distinction between civil marriage and christian marriage? There is, there are tax benefits and legal rights imbued into a civil marriage. A christian marriage is blessed by a loving god. Why would our loving God turn his back on any of his children who are in love? Christian marriages have been performed on couples where it was later discovered one partner was abusive and harmful to the other and the children. To deny a christian the blessing of the father just because of gender seems hypocritical.

What is the theological significance of companionship, the bearing and raising of children, and the relationship between marriage and sexuality? theologically, I think we are all called to treat each other well, regardless of nationality, gender and creed. Theologically we should all be companionable with everyone. In marriage so long as the partners are companionable they are being good people. Same sex unions can bear children and raise children just as well as mixed sex unions. They may need assistance but so do some mixed sex unions. Marriage should not be considered to be so dependant on sexuality. Sex is not the only thing that happens in a marriage, not even the biggest part of the marriage! Marriages are the union of two who love each other and support each other. Neither action requires sex.

What is the difference between Marriage and the blessing of a relationship? I don't know, I have always considered them to mean the same thing... That the larger religious community recognizes and celebrates the relationship of the couple and also recognize that two of Gods children have found their support and companionship and love in each other

How do I understand the sacramentality of marriage? Well, by other generations standards probably my understanding is quite poor. My understanding is that love is love. Celebrate it, support it and let the lovers be happy. Marriage should support all that. I do not understand how anyone can stand up and say "Your Love is an Abomination!" to two consenting adults. if both are in love and consenting who are we to say this is not God's work? There are same sex pairings in the animal kingdom, if pure nature allows it and accepts it why cannot we, who supposedly have the charge of stewardship?

To summarize: Let Love spread and be blessed with joy and abundance! Let our fellow Christians Marry so long as they are both consenting and legally adult. Gender should not matter. Supportive loving relationships are the key factor in a marriage.

Thank You,

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