

God, Marriage and Family: Course Overview

Chapter 1. Why there is a need for biblical integrative treatment of the subject.

Chapters 2 and 3. Old Testament and New Testament, respectively / Divine institution of marriage / Violations of God's plan in history in Old Testament Israel / Glimpses of the ideal marriage in the Old Testament / Teachings of Jesus and Paul in the New Testament / Christian theology of marriage

Chapter 4. Examination and implications of the three views of the nature of marriage: sacramental, contractual or covenantal

Chapters 5 and 6. Overview of the biblical teaching on marriage and the family / The example of Israelite families / The importance of teaching children and of Christian Education / The encounters of Jesus with children / The teaching and disciplinary or discipleship roles of fathers in the home according to Paul / Motherhood and homemaking in the New Testament / Good and bad parenting

Chapters 7 and 8. Issues and Hot topics: To have children or not / Childlessness / Medical ethics / Abortion / Contraception / Artificial reproductive technologies (ART) / Single parents / Physical discipline or spanking / Spiritual warfare with respect to marriage and the family

Chapter 9. Issues prior to marriage: Singleness / Cohabitation and premarital sex / Courtship and dating

Chapters 10 and 11. Major threats to marriage and the family: Homosexuality (including lesbianism) / Divorce / The remarriage debate

Chapter 12. Issues related to marriage and the family which touch church leadership and the officers, that is, Deacons and Elders of the church and their qualifications: husband of one wife and marital faithfulness / divorce / singleness / behavior of children, etc.

Chapter 13. Synthesis summary and conclusion

Lord willing, we will cover one chapter per week during this fall quarter. I would appreciate your prayers as I prepare the lessons as well as your input or questions regarding how I can make the course more relevant to your personal situation.

Your servant in Christ,

Rob Moller