

Malachi: Marriage Mess, Part 2

↳ Using **Malachi 2:11-16** as a jumping off place, we started considering the issues of marriage and divorce. **Proverbs 18:22**; Marriage matters to God, and we need to make sure we are following His rules.

1. Returning to where we left off. There are two major, overarching statements:
 - 1) God planned the human heart for love and companionship.
 - 2) The primary means of that originally was to be found in the institution of marriage.
2. Someone has lined out three stages of Marriage:
 - 1) Romance stage, focus is on each other, feelings are strong, passions are high, **Song of Solomon 4:1-4**.
 - 2) Reality Stage
 - 3) Rethinking Stage, Romance is Ideal; Reality is the ordeal; Rethinking is when you want a new deal!
 - ✓ At this point, according to what I read, you have 2 choices:
 - 1) Settle for a Blah marriage
 - 2) Decide to bail on your marriage, this is where many are going.
 - ✓ There is a third option! Build your Marriage. The Designer of Marriage lays out the blueprints for us.
3. Marriage is accomplished by leaving, receiving, cleaving and weaving **Genesis 2:24-25**. This is covenantal language, and it is quoted 5 other times in the Bible!
 - 1) Leaving: The Hebrew here is very strong. It literally means to cut off or abandon. Your spouse becomes your priority even over your parents: this is crucial, don't break this rule or you may break a marriage.
 - 2) Receiving, Adam receives Eve based on the fact that God brought her to him, and that fact alone.
 - ✓ Adam doesn't check her out, he just accepts her. God performs the ceremony on the same day that Eve is created, which is the same day that Adam and Even met.
 - ✓ It is a fallacy to think that it is our job to find our mate, it is a mistake accept them based on anything less than "God brought them to me"

When we make our marriage based on the changelessness of God, then and only then will it work.
