

# How Is Your Marriage – Good or Bad?



**Malachi 2:13-14**

- **Review – Having A good Journey in Marriage – Heb. 13:4**
- **Six Statements about marriage**
  1. **Marriage is the most important decision a person will make next to his eternal destiny in salvation.**
  2. **Choosing a life’s partner for marriage must not be taken without careful and prayerful consideration.**
  3. **Nowhere in Scripture does God ever command: “thou shall be married.”**
  4. **Marriage is the first institution God created**
  5. **Love is not the foundation for marriage.**
  6. **There are many marriages in trouble today.**
- **Understand the origin and purpose of marriage.**
  - A. **Marriage exist to glorify God because it reflects His image.**
  - B. **God gave Adam and Ever the commission to rule.**

## **How Is Your Marriage – Good or Bad Malachi 2:13-1**

- **A strange situation exists in our world today.**
- **The fact that a man and a woman are both saved is no guarantee that their marriage will succeed.**
- **Many people today are disappointed with marriage.**
- **Our marriages today are deteriorating at such a high rate not because we no longer get along, but because we have lost sight of the purpose of the marriage covenant.**
- **“Marriage is a covenant made publicly between a man (born male) and a woman (born female), for the purpose of fulfilling the will of God in our generation.”**
- **Marriage is a covenantal union designed to strengthen the capability of each partner to carry out the plan of God in their lives.**

## **God's Description of Marriage**

### **Malachi 2:13-14**

- One of God's complaints is found in chapter 2, verses 13 and 14.
  - The passage specifically identifies marriage as a "covenant."
  - For some people, a covenant is simply some sort of formal contractual arrangement.
  - The Word of God is the medicine we need for our marriages today.
  - "Though I cannot go back and make a brand-new start my friend, anyone can start from now and make a brand-new end."
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- **Four Stages of a Bad Marriage**
    1. Dumb stage – marriage is going to be easy.
    2. Delusion stage – this is not what I thought
    3. Distort stage – every issue is blown out of proportion
    4. Dismantle stage – the goal is to sink the other person.
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- **The Top Ten Marriage Killers**
    1. Immaturity – selfishness and pride
    2. Bad family background
    3. Unrealistic expectations