

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."

○ **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.**

○ **The Top Ten Marriage Killers**

1. **Immaturity – selfishness and pride**
2. **Bad family background**
3. **Unrealistic expectations**
4. **Inability to enjoy life – laughter**
5. **Pettiness**
6. **Inattention**
7. **Affairs**
8. **Constant conflict**
9. **Financial conflict**
10. **Over commitment**

○ **Top Ten Marriage Builders**

1. **High commitment to make the marriage work.**
2. **Expression of love to your spouse and family.**
3. **Put fun into your marriage.**

4. Offer forgiveness quickly and easily.
5. Effective communication.
6. Becoming intimate
7. Understand and appreciate the difference between men and women.

A. Five Top Needs for a Woman

1. Love – affection
2. Conversation
3. Good old-fashioned honesty and openness
4. Financial security
5. Family commitment

B. Five Top Needs for a Man

1. Sexual fulfillment
2. Admiration
3. Feel that his wife is attractive
4. Domestic security
5. Recreational companionship

- Continuation of the Top Ten Marriage Builders
- 8. Continue growth and development of each other.
- 9. Exhibit a serving heart for each other.
- 10. Get a new definition of success.
 - “Success is having my spouse love and respect me.”