Marriage
1 Kings 11:1-13

Introduction:
A. King Solomon’s marriage experience proved to be costly to himself and his kingdom.
B. King Solomon’s marriage experience should encourage us to study marriage from all angles.

Discussion:

II. Its Design.
A. To include one male and one female. (Matt. 19:4-5).
B. To provide happiness on earth.
   1. Suitable companionship. (Gen. 2:18)
   2. Honorable Sexual intimacy (1 Cor. 7:1-4; Heb. 13:4)
C. To provide honorable procreation. (Gen. 1:26-27).

III. Its Duration.
A. Until one dies — the general rule. (Rom. 7:1-3; 1 Cor. 7:39)
B. Until one divorces for fornication — one God-ordained exception. (Matt. 5:32; 19:9)

IV. Its Development.
A. Through Biblical love. (Eph. 5:25; Tit. 2:4; 1 John 3:18)
B. Through peacefulness. (cf. Prov. 21:19; 25:24; “take a walk”,”75-75”; “leave & cleave”)
C. Through mutual respect. (1 Cor. 7:3-5; 1 Pet 3:5-7).
D. Through spiritual mindedness.
   1. Relate marriage to God, Christ and the church. (1 Cor. 7:15; Eph. 5; Tit. 2:5; 1 Pet. 3:4)
   2. Relate marriage conduct to prayer. (1 Pet. 5:7)

V. Its Dangers.
A. Danger of passion, emotions, physical attraction overriding Biblical knowledge and sound judgment.
B. Danger of ill-timed or unwise marriage.
   1. If during a “present distress”. (1 Cor. 7:25-28).
   2. If emotionally, intellectually or financially unprepared.
C. Danger of marrying anyone other than a faithful Christian.
   1. Potential life-time of conflict or compromise.
      b. May become unequal yoke. (2 Cor. 6:14-18).
   2. As Christian grows has less in common with non-Christian.

VI. Its Divorce.
A. Impact on couple themselves.
   1. At least one can never marry again—maybe both.
   2. Other hardships: financial, emotional, etc.
B. Impact on other people.
   1. Children and other family members.
   2. Innocent parties drawn into adulterous marriages.
      a. Will have to dissolve the relationship
      b. May be lost because of it.
C. Impact on Church.
   1. Influence and fellowship. (1 Cor. 5; Rev. 2:20)
   2. Day to day association with Christians.

Conclusion:
A. It is not hard to get married.
B. It is not hard to get unmarried.
C. It is not hard to stay married.
   1. If both parties love the Lord.
   2. If both parties love each other.