

# Your Wife by Covenant

## Marriage as a Covenant

---



*Wisdom in Torah*  
*Talmidim Teachers*

Presented by:

*Ryan White*

# Objectives for the Series



- Discuss the difference between Covenant and Contract.
- Discuss why YHWH created the institution of marriage.
- Discuss Genesis 1-3 from the aspect of a marriage covenant.
- Discuss principles in Genesis 1-3 that can make your marriage blissful regardless of how bad it has become.
- Define the roles of a man and woman within a relationship.
- Discuss marriage, divorce, and women's rights in the ancient Near East.

# Objectives for the Series



- Compare and contrast marriage, divorce, and women's rights in the ancient Near East with the Torah.
- Discuss marriage, divorce, and women's rights in the First Century
- Compare and contrast views and rulings on marriage and divorce in First Century Judaism with the words of Yeshua and Paul.
- Discuss insight from the book *Garden of Peace* and its relationship with ancient principles.
- Discuss Israel as the bride and what that means for our relationships with our spouse and with the Father.



# Resources Used



- *Marriage as a Covenant* by Gordon Hugenberger
- *Garden of Peace* by Rabbi Shalom Arush
- *Flame of Yahweh* by Richard Davidson
- *Divorce and Remarriage in the Bible* by David Instone-Brewer
- *The Marriage Covenant* by Derek Prince
- *Marriage as Covenant* by John Tartwater
- *Madam I'm Adam* (audio) by Rabbi Daniel Lapin
- *What God has Joined Together* (audio) by Tim Hegg



# The Garden of Peace

By: Rabbi Shalom Arush



# Resources Used



- *Genesis Sermon Series* (audio) by Dr. Gordon Hugenberger
- 'Adultery' entry in the Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception
- *The Family in the Old Testament* by J. Andrew Dearman
- *Women in Mesopotamia* by M. Stol
- *A New Understanding of the Divorce and Remarriage Legislation in Deuteronomy 24:1-4* by Anthony Garrett
- *A Typology of Israelite Marriage: Kinship, Socio-Economic, and Religious Factors* by Allen Guenther

# Context of Malachi



Ezra 10:10 And Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, “You, you have trespassed and have taken foreign women, adding to the guilt of Yisra’ël.

10:11 “And now, make confession to יהוה Elohim of your fathers, and do His desire, and separate yourselves from the peoples of the land, and from the foreign women.”

# Context of Malachi



Ezra 10:18 And among the sons of the priests who had taken foreign women were found of the sons of Yĕshua son of Yotsadaq, and his brothers: Ma'asĕyah, and Eli'ezer, and Yarib, and Gedalyah.

10:19 And they gave their hand *in pledge* to put away their wives. And being guilty, they presented a ram of the flock for their guilt.



# Malachi 2:13-14



And this you have done a second time: you cover the altar of יהוה with tears, with weeping and crying, because He no longer regards the offering, nor receives it with pleasure from your hands.

# Malachi 2:13-14



And you said, “Why?” Because יהוה has been witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have acted treacherously, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant.

# 1 Peter 3:7



In the same way, husbands, live understandingly together, giving respect to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the favor of life, so that your prayers are not hindered.



# Malachi 2:16



“For I hate divorce,” said יהוה Elohim of  
Yisra’ēl, “and the one who covers his  
garment with cruelty,” said יהוה of hosts.  
“So you shall guard your spirit, and do  
not act treacherously.”

(The Scriptures 1998+)

# Malachi 2:16



**"If one hates and divorces," says Yahweh,  
God of Israel, "he covers his garments  
with violence," says Yahweh of Host,  
"Therefore take heed to yourself and do  
not be faithless [against your wife]"**

**(Hugenberger's Rendition)**

# 1 Timothy 5:8



And if anyone does not provide for his own,  
and especially for those of his household, he  
has denied the belief and is worse than an  
unbeliever.



# Marriage as a Covenant

---

Problems in Marriage

# Values of the Western Culture

- Individual choice over moral responsibility
- Individuality over community
- Independence over interdependence

# Social Attacks on Marriage



- **Homosexual marriage**
  - **Push by the progressive movement (and thus the government)**
  - **Church leaders accepting and promoting gay marriage**



# Social Attacks on Marriage



- **Women's movement**
  - **Glorification of the business woman while debasing the stay-at-home mom**
  - **Degradation of the concept of needing children**
  - **Promote independence over interdependence**
  - **Value achievement over servitude**

# Social Attacks on Marriage



Feminist Author Vivian Gornick, *New Dimensions*

"Being a housewife is an illegitimate profession...the choice to serve and be protected and plan towards being a family maker is a choice that shouldn't be. The heart of radical feminism is to change that."

# Social Attacks on Marriage



Women's Counseling Service, *The Document: The Declaration of Feminism*

"Marriage has existed for the benefit of men; and has been a legally sanctioned method of control over women. ...Now we know it is the institution that has failed us and we must work to destroy it. The end of the institution of marriage is a necessary condition for the liberation of women.



# Social Attacks on Marriage



Women's Counseling Service, *The Document: The Declaration of Feminism*

**(cont)**

**Therefore it is important for us to encourage women to leave their husbands and not to live individually with men. ...All of history must be rewritten in terms of oppression of women. We must go back...to ancient female religions (like witchcraft)."**

# 1 Corinthians 12:14-24



**“Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body”**

**“An eye is unable to say to the hand, “I have no need of you”**

**“Those members of the body which are thought to be weaker are necessary”**

**“To those of the body which we think to be less respected, these we present greater respect”**

# Social Attacks on Marriage



- **Porn**
  - **Free-sex society**
  - **Unrealistic picture of the marriage bed**
  - **Decline towards depravity**



# Social Attacks on Marriage



- Treating marriage as an agreement instead of a covenant.
  - “No Fault” divorce introduced in 1970’s
  - Skyrocketing divorce rates
  - Marriage rates down 33%
  - ~70% of married people unhappy