

GODS BUILDING CODE

PSALMS 127: 1 Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh *but* in vain¹

STORY WHEN I WAS PASTORING AT SODDY DAISY I HAD TO BECOME REAL FAMILIAR WITH THE BUILDING CODES OF HAMILTON COUNTY building our new church we learned only certain kinds of doors could go here and there certain wiring certain this and that what we learned there were codes we had to abide by in the home god has some building codes we had better abide by

I. NOTICE GOD HAS DIVINE INSTRUCTIONS FOR MARRIAGE.

PS. 127.1

A. THE FOUNDATION FOR THE HOME

STORY OF MAN THAT BUILT UPON ON THE SAND
WE MUST BUILD UPON THE ROCK NOW LISTEN YOU
CAN BOTH BE CHRISTIANS AND YOUR MARRIAGE STILL NOT BE BUILT UPON THE LORD JESUS
IF YOU HAVEN'T SURRENDERED THE CONTROL OF YOUR HOME OVER TO THE LORD YOU BETTER

YOU SEE THE COLD HARD FACTS ARE THAT BEING A CHRISTIAN DOESN'T IMMUNIZE YOU AND YOUR HOME FROM MARITAL DECAY

Story I REMEMBER READING STORY OF a thrift store wedding cake topper YOU KNOW THE LITTLE PLASTIC BRIDE AND GROOM THAT SETS ON THE TOP OF A WEDDING CAKE WELL A CERTAIN FELLOW NOTICED A SIGN 80 % off OF WEDDING CAKE TOPPER BECAUSE the bride and groom have come unglued .

THE TRUTH WE MUST REALIZE THAT MANY CHRISTIAN HOMES ARE FALLING APART AT THE SEAMS THEY ARE COMING UNGLUED

STORY OF EPOXY COMES IN TWO PARTS BY THEIR SELF THEY'RE NOT EFFECTIVE BUT WHEN YOU PUT THE TWO TOGETHER THEY BECOME ONE AND THE BOND UNBREAKABLE² BUT LISTEN FOR THE TWO TO COME TOGETHER IT TAKE A THIRD INGREDIENT WHAT'S THAT ? It takes a person to mix them together
LOOK AT THE TEXT AGAIN PS 127.1

B. THE FORMULA FOR THE HOME

(a. THE FOUNDATION FOR THE HOME IS THE LORD

(b. THE FORMULA FOR THE HOME IS LOVE

GEN 2.18

¹⁸ And the LORD God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet^ffor him.³
(HELP MEET) MEANING THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN

THE BIBLE TELLS US WE BECOME ONE FLESH IN TODAY'S LANGUAGE IT MEANS ONE ORGANISM ONE HEARTBEAT...BUT TOO OFTEN TODAY MARRIAGE IS NOT ONE HEARTBEAT MAN SOME MARRIAGES ARE NOT EVAN IN THE SAME ZIP CODE MUCH LESS THE SAME BODY

STORY A WOMAN NAMED **Ida STRIKER** was at a charity ball and was boasting to a friend about her new diamond ring. "It's the third most valuable diamond in the world!" she boasted. "The first is the Hope Diamond, the second is the Kohinoor Diamond, and then comes this—the Striker Diamond!" "Unfortunately," she continued, "the Striker Diamond must also accept the famous Striker Curse." "What's the Striker Curse?" her friend asked. **YOU HAVE TO BE MARRIED TO "Mr. Striker,"**

¹ The Holy Bible : King James Version. 1995 (electronic ed. of the 1769 edition of the 1611 Authorized Version.) (Ps 127:1). Bellingham WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

² Streiker, L. D. (2000). Nelson's big book of laughter : Thousands of smiles from A to Z (electronic ed.) (255). Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

^f meet...: Heb. as before him

³ The Holy Bible : King James Version. 1995 (electronic ed. of the 1769 edition of the 1611 Authorized Version.) (Ge 2:18). Bellingham WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

GOD DID NOT INTEND MARRIAGE TO BE A CURSE BUT A BLESSING TWO HALVES becoming ONE

YOU SEE GOD HAS A FORMULA FOR SUCCESS IN THE HOME AND MARRIAGE GOD HAS SPELLED IT OUT IN THE BIBLE WRITE THIS DOWN

1ST COR 13. 4-8.a

⁴ Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth^a not itself, is not puffed up, ⁵ Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; ⁶ Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth^b; ⁷ Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

⁸ Charity never faileth: ⁴

Listen again in today's words

⁴ Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous, it does not brag, and it is not proud. ⁵ Love is not rude, is not selfish, and does not get upset with others. Love does not count up wrongs that have been done. ⁶ Love takes no pleasure in evil but rejoices over the truth. ⁷ Love patiently accepts all things. It always trusts, always hopes, and always endures.

⁸ Love never ends.⁵

Now listen carefully if you are no loving your spouse this way

⁶then you are missing GOD'S FORMULA FOR THE HOME

STORY I WAS READING THE OTHER DAY

One missionary wife sent this testimony to Charles Shepson following a visit to Fairhaven, a marriage and counseling ministry in Roan Mountain, Tennessee:

I felt trapped between my feelings and my Christian convictions. I hated my husband and wanted to leave him. I honestly did not know how I could go on living with him, feeling the way I did. I knew that to leave him was wrong and would have far-reaching consequences for my family. And we were missionaries!

I knew what was right. I could quote all the verses, yet I had myself convinced at times that it was more cowardly to stay in the marriage than it would be to leave it. My whole life was misery. I was rejecting everything I believed in.

My husband and I were given an opportunity to go to your retreat center for counsel, and in agreeing to go, I made my first tentative choice to work on our marriage. My first day there, I made a deliberate choice to commit myself to my husband and to our marriage. It was a decision based upon what I knew to be right, but it in no way reflected my feelings at the time. I still felt rebellious and bitter. I felt no love, and these feelings stayed with me. Each positive step I took was a response to my choice as I ignored my feelings.

We started to rebuild our marriage. Our first aim was friendship, since we felt this was a measurable, reachable goal. I had no expectations, but I stuck with it, knowing only that I was doing the right thing. My miracle happened—slowly, very slowly. As I acted on my choice and built on it, my feelings began to change. Over the months I began to feel respect, then tenderness, and finally love for my husband. I saw his weakness, and I saw his strength. I saw him through entirely different eyes, and I loved him⁷ **YOU SEE WHEN THEY GOT WITH GOD'S FORMULA THEIR MARRIAGE BECAME MIRACULOUS**

GOD NOT ONLY HAS A DESIGNED PLAN FOR THE HOME

II. NOTICE GOD HAS A DIVINE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR MARRIAGE (THERE ARE FOUR AREAS IN GOD'S INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE HOME)

A. COHABITATION

1 PETER 3.7 TELL US WE ARE DWELL WITH OUR WIVES ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGE

THE WORD **DWELL** MEANS MORE THAN JUST LIVING IN UNDER THE SAME ROOF (**THE WORD DWELL LITERALLY**

MEANS TO BE A FAMILY THERE ARE A LOT OF MARRIAGES TODAY OH THEY LIVE IN THE SAME HOUSE BUT THEY ARE NOT A FAMILY

STORY One year a husband and wife that never could seem to get along the **Wife said one day** , “Honey, I’ve

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bought you an **unusual birthday present.**” “What did you buy me?” he asked her. “**A cemetery plot.**” He agreed with her that it was indeed unusual but thanked her anyway. **The next year, she didn't buy him a gift, so he asked her why.** “Because,” she said, “you didn't use the one I bought you last year.”

NOT ONLY COHABITATION BUT ALSO

B. CONSIDERATION

⁸ LOOK AGAIN AT 1ST PETER 3.7 SAYS LIKEWISE YE HUSBANDS DWELL WITH THEM ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGE giving HONOR unto the wife,

TO

translates as 1. “knowledge” 2. **intelligence** . 3. moral wisdom, such right living.

4. TO LEARN YOUR SPOUSE, NOW HERE IS THE BIG ONE IT ALSO MEANS TO 5. LIVE WITH YOUR SPOUSE WITH Understanding AND CONSIDERATION

NOW LOOK AT THE WORD HONOR GIVING HONOR TO THE WIFE

5092. TO ESTEEM RESPECT TO HAVE value, worth (of the highest degree), or the dignity itself:— ,

NOW BY THE WAY THIS HONOR RESPECT VALUE AND WORTH VERSE 6 SHOWS US THIS GOES BOTH WAYS THAT EACH SPOUSE IS TO HONOR THE OTHER

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IT MEANS WE ARE TO KNOW OUR SPOUSE SO WELL AND HAVE SUCH A HIGH REGARD AND BE SO CONSIDERATE FOR WHAT THEY NEED THAT WE PUT OUR SPOUSE BEFORE OUR SELF

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NOT LIKE A STORY I READ SOME YEARS AGO

STORY OF A MAN WENT TO DR. HIS WIFE WAITED OUT IN WAITING ROOM AND THE DOCTOR CHECKED THE MAN OUT AT THAT TIME THE DR. SAID SIR I NEED TO SPEAK TO YOUR WIFE IN PRIVATE ...YOUR HUSBAND VERY SICK I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANY ONE SO STRESSED OUT FOR YOUR HUSBAND TO LIVE YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE ALL THE STRESS OUT OF HIS LIFE WHEN HE COMES HOME YOU NEED TO MEET HIM WITH HIS SLIPPERS IN ONE HAND THE REMOTE IN THE OTHER IF HE WANTS CHICKEN FOR DINNER YOU WILL NEED TO COOK HIM CHICKEN IF HE WANTS YOU TO COOK STEAK FOR DINNER YOU WILL NEED TO COOK HIM STEAK IF HE WANTS YOU TO RUB HIS FEET YOU WILL NEED TO RUB HIS FEET IF HE SAYS JUMP YOU NEED TO SAY HOW HIGH IF HE IS GOING TO LIVE YOU WILL HAVE TO DO WHAT EVER HE WANTS WHEN THE WIFE GOT BACK OUT TO THE WAITING AREA THE MAN SAID TO HIS WIFE WHAT DI HE SAY OH I SORRY HONEY BUT THE DR. SAID YOUR GOING TO DIE

IS YOUR HOME IN TUNE WITH GODS DEVINE INFRASTRUCTURE

Not only cohabitation ,consideration but also

C. COOPERATION

1ST PETER 3.8 BE YE ALL OF ONE MIND

STORY ONE OF THE GREAT ILLUSTRATIONS AQUILA PRICILLA THEY WERE A CHRISTIAN HUSBAND AND WIFE IN PAUL'S DAY SOMETHING INTERESTING STUDY EVERY REFERENCE OF THEM YOU WILL NEVER FIND ONE

⁸ Streiker, L. D. (2000). Nelson's big book of laughter : Thousands of smiles from A to Z (electronic ed.) (212). Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

[·] **anal.** anal. = analogy

⁹ Strong, J. (1997, c1996). The new Strong's dictionary of Hebrew and Greek words (H8674). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

WITH OUT THE OTHER YOU CAN SEE IN PAUL'S WRITINGS OF THEM THERE WAS SUCH A COOPERATION IN THEIR MARRIAGE

GOD'S INFRASTRUCTURE COHABITATION CONSIDERATION COOPERATION AND NOW

D. COMMUNICATION

COL 3.19

Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them¹⁰

GREEK FOR BITTER

Translates as bitter A bitter taste in the stomach.. TO BE indignant. (deal bitterly with¹¹ (THE WORDING DEALS WITH TALKING HARSHLY BEING MEAN SPIRITED IN YOUR COMMUNICATION

GOD DIDN'T INTEND FOR THE HOME TO BE A PLACE OF STRIFE

BUT SATAN SURE DOES (AND WILL PUT A WEDGE BETWEEN the TWO OF YOU IF YOUR NOT CAREFUL

STORY AFTER SATAN HAD TEMPTED EVE IN THE GARDEN

AND ADAM AND EVE SINNED GOD CAME TO THEM ADAM INFORMED GOD THEY WERE HIDING BECAUSE THEY WERE

NAKED GOD ASKED ADAM HAST THOU EATEN OF THE TREE WHERE OF I COMMANDED THEE THAT THOU SHOULDEST NOT EAT GOD ASKED ADAM PERSONALLY HAVE YOU DISOBEYED ME LISTEN TO ADAM'S REPLY

GEN 3.12

¹² And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat¹²

AT THE FIRST SIGN OF TROUBLE WHAT DID ADAM DO BLAME EVE HE SAID SHE SAID

1. MEN BE CAREFUL HOW YOU COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR WIFE
CHOOSE YOUR WORDS WISELY

STORY A WOMAN BY THE NAME Roberta recalls: "One evening I drove my husband's car to the shopping mall. On my return, I noticed how dusty the outside of his car was and cleaned it up a bit. When I finally entered the house, I called out, 'The woman who loves you the most in the world just cleaned AND WASHED YOUR CAR My husband looked up and said, 'Mom's here?' "

2 .LADIES BE CAREFUL HOW YOU COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR HUSBAND

CHOOSE YOUR WORDS WISELY

STORY A MAN NAMED Harry was complaining to A FRIEND recently. His COMPLAINT WAS : "My wife, a registered nurse, once fussed over every pain or mishap that came my way.

Recently, however, I got an indication **that the honeymoon** is over. I was about to fix the attic fan, and as I lifted myself from the ladder into the attic, I CUT my forehead on a crossbeam. Crawling along, I picked up splinters in both hands, **and I cut one hand replacing the fan belt**. On the way down the ladder, I missed the last two rungs and BROKE my ankle. When I limped into the kitchen, BLOOD DRIPPING FROM MY FOREHEAD AND HANDS my wife took one look and said, 'Are those your good pants?' "

COHABITATION CONSIDERATION COOPERATION AND COMMUNICATION

III. NOTICE GOD HAS A DIVINE INTEGRITY FOR MARRIAGE

1st Thess 4.1-4

10 The Holy Bible : King James Version. 1995 (electronic ed. of the 1769 edition of the 1611 Authorized Version.) (Col 3:19). Bellingham WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

11 Strong, J. (1996). The exhaustive concordance of the Bible : Showing every word of the test of the common English version of the canonical books, and every occurrence of each word in regular order. (electronic ed.) (G4087). Ontario: Woodside Bible Fellowship.

12 The Holy Bible : King James Version. 1995 (electronic ed. of the 1769 edition of the 1611 Authorized Version.) (Ge 3:12). Bellingham WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

¹ Furthermore then we beseech^a you, brethren, and exhort *you* by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, *so*[†] ye would abound more and more. ² For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. ³ For this is the will of God, *even* your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: ⁴ That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour¹³

a. WE ARE TO Abound In Abstinence

Here Paul deals with marriage in the home. The marriage vows in heathen cities said nothing about purity, so there was great danger of immorality in the lives of these new Christians. While love and purity certainly prevailed in many heathen homes, the general atmosphere of these city-states in ancient Greece was one of lust and selfishness. The Christian has the responsibility of building a home that will glorify God. Immorality is basically selfishness and robbery. Thus, Paul exhorts them to live to please God and not themselves. He instructs them to live in holiness and purity by the power of God. God's will for their lives was that they be sanctified. The word "sanctified" simply means "set apart for a purpose." The believer has been set apart for God. We have the daily responsibility of devoting ourselves more to God so that in body, soul and spirit we completely belong to Him. If we're to be sanctified, we're going to have to live in the world, but we must live above the world.

Handley Page, a pioneer in aviation, was flying in the Middle East in one of his best airplanes. On his journey he landed at Khaibar in Arabia. Unknown to him, a huge rat was attracted by the smell of food in the plane and managed to get aboard. On the next leg of the flight, Page heard the sickening sound of gnawing. Suspecting it was a rodent, his heart began to pound as he visualized the serious damage that could be done to the fragile mechanisms that controlled the craft. What could he do? Then the thought struck him. A rat cannot survive at high altitudes. So he pulled back on the stick. The airplane climbed higher and higher until Page found it difficult to breathe. He listened intently, then sighed with relief. The gnawing had stopped. When he arrived at his next destination he found the rat lying dead behind the cockpit. You see, we're to live in the world, but we're not to be of the world. We're to live above the world. We have been set apart so that we completely belong to Him.

One husband knew that every year on the family's way to their vacation spot, just as they would get about eighty miles out of town, his wife would cry out, "Oh, no! I'm sure I left the iron on." Each year they would return home only to find it unplugged. One year, however, was different the man had anticipated what was coming. When his wife gasped, "We must go back, I just know I left the iron on," he stopped the car, reached under his seat, and handed his wife the iron.

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