

The Family

I'd like to start this study by asking you to use your imagination.

Let's imagine Satan is having a meeting with his board of directors and other members of his organization. In his opening address to his evil angels he says "*we can't keep the people from going to Sabbath services, from reading their Bibles and knowing the truth. We can't even keep them from an intimate, abiding relationship experience in Messiah. So this is what I want you to do. Distract them from gaining hold of their savior and maintaining that vital connection throughout the day.*" "How shall we do this?" shouted the demons.

Satan, the master of lies and deception, replies "*the number one goal is to destroy the family.*" If we destroy the family, we destroy the basis of everything good, for without the family structure, mankind is doomed. So keep them busy in the non-essentials of life and invent innumerable schemes to occupy their minds. Tempt them to spend, spend, spend and borrow beyond their means. Persuade the wives to go to work for long hours and the husbands to work 6-7 days a week for 10-12 hrs. per day so they can afford their empty lifestyles. Keep them from spending time with their children. As their family fragments, soon their homes will offer no escape from the pressures of the world. Entice them to play the radio or cassette player whenever they drive. Over stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that still small voice. Keep the VCR, TV, CDs, DVDs and their PCs going constantly in their homes. Let them become busy at doing nothing...and see to it that every store, restaurant and business everywhere plays non-biblical music constantly. This will preoccupy their minds with messages of the flesh and break that union with the Messiah.

Fill the coffee tables with magazines and newspapers. Pound their minds with the world 24 hours a day. Invade their driving moments with billboards. Flood their mailboxes with junk mail, mail order catalogues, sweepstakes and every kind of newsletter and promotional offering free products, services and false hopes. Make sexuality pervasive; put sexy, beautiful models on the magazines so husbands will lust after external beauty and they will become dissatisfied with their wives. Give them movies that portray a luxurious gaudy, lustful lifestyle that does not actually exist. Keep them too busy to go out in nature to reflect on Yahweh's wonders. Give them thrills at amusement parks, sporting events, concerts and movies instead. Keep them busy, busy, busy! When they do not meet for spiritual fellowship, involve them in gossip, envy or self righteousness so that they leave with troubled consciences. This will restrict their conversations to shallow, vain, unimportant topics. Let them be involved in soul winning, but crowd their lives with so many causes that they have no time to seek power from the Messiah. Soon, they will be working in their own strength, sacrificing their health and families for the cause. They will lose sight of how important a human soul really is.."

Well it was quite a convention and the evil angels go eagerly about their assignment of causing Yahweh's people to be busy, busy, busy and to rush here and there. The evil

angels have even stolen Yahweh's ordained day of rest! Ask yourself, does this describe my family?

People, we are being attacked! As the time for the return of the Messiah gets closer, Satan steps up his bombardment of evil. It is hard to imagine life without cars, airplanes, TVs, computers and electricity.

Remember, for 5700 years since the creation of Adam there was no modern technology. Only in the last 100 years and specifically the last 50 to 60 years have things advanced so much. These advances are now bringing mankind destruction. With greater knowledge comes greater evil. We are facing major world problems. Mankind without Yahweh's Holy Spirit is inherently wicked. With every new invention comes more destruction. It is to the point that if Yahweh did not shorten the days in the end, mankind would destroy every last creature on this planet. Matt.24:22 ***"If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened."***

Satan's ability to control the physical world centers around the destruction of the family. Why is the family so important to Yahweh and to us? Why does Satan center his attacks on the family structure? This is a big subject and a most important one, so let's start at the beginning; at least man's beginning for now.

After creating man, what did Yahweh say?

Gen. 2:18 ***"It is not good that man should be alone."*** What therefore did Yahweh say He would do? ***"I will make a suitable partner for him."*** Could such a partner be found among the creatures Yahweh had already made?

Gen.2:20 ***"And Adam gave names to all cattle and to the fowl of the air and to every beast of the field but for Adam there was not found a mate for him."***

So what did Yahweh do? Gen.2: 21-22 ***"And Yahweh caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept and he took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh instead thereof, and the rib which Yahweh had taken from the man, made He a woman and brought her unto the man."***

So my question is: Why did Yahweh create the family unit, not only in humans but in all of His creations? Nothing reproduces without a seed. In Genesis 1:22, concerning all life before the creation of man He says, ***"Elohim blessed them saying be fertile, multiply...fill the Earth."*** Yahweh blessed the family structure.

Now let's look at verse 26 to the end of the chapter. ***"And Elohim said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. (27) So Elohim created man in his own image, in the image of Elohim created he him; male and female created he them.(28) And Elohim blessed them, and Elohim said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. (29) And Elohim said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face***

of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of the tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. (30) And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so. (31) And Elohim saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day. ”

He created us in His image. He didn't create robots, although He allows us to create robots, I don't believe He will let us create life. He gave us the ability to feel, think and make choices. The greatest choice we get to make is whether to follow His law or Satan's lies.

In verse 28 once again He gives a blessing. A blessing for what? A blessing to be fruitful and multiply and the ability to create the family unit. Therefore, we are Yahweh's family and the scripture tells us so...

Through the Old Testament prophets, Yahweh calls Himself a husband to us. Let's look at Isaiah 54:5 ***“For your Maker is your husband Yahweh of hosts is his name the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; he is called the Elohim of all the earth.”***

In the New Testament Yahshua uses the betrothal and marriage relationship as an example of His relationship with us. Let's look at:
Rev.19:7-9 ***“Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory, for the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.” (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) Then the angel said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’” And he added, “These are the true words of Elohim.”***

Those that are called will drink of the cup in His Father's kingdom. Notice Matthew 26:29 ***“I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom.”***

This cup will be shared with the new bride at the marriage supper of the lamb. Everything Yahshua said and did, have, and continues to have deep spiritual meaning. So all in all, I'd say that the family structure is pretty important business for Father Yahweh. Losing sight of the meaning and purpose of the family structure can only spell disaster for mankind.

For the last forty years or so, the human race has been conducting an experiment to determine whether or not the family structure is necessary for our survival. Divorce has become a household word. Single parent families have become common. What are the results of our experiment?

According to Duke University children of divorced parents are 300 times more likely to get in trouble with authorities. Men and women who remain married live 2 to 9 years longer than those who don't. Let's think about all the problems that are caused by us and

our experiment with Yahweh's divine plan. Every time we take more away from the family structure and its purpose we only create more misery for mankind.

Let's look at Yahweh's purpose for giving Adam a wife in Gen. 2:21-22 ***“And Yahweh caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept: and He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh instead thereof and the rib which Yahweh had taken from man made He a woman and brought her unto the man.”***

What a wonderful story if we can grasp the full meaning of it. Yahweh did not make man after the order of the lower animals, but “in His own image.” Neither did He choose man's companion from some other order of beings, but made her from man – of the same substance. Yahweh made the woman, not from man's feet, that the man might have an excuse to degrade, enslave or trample upon her; nor from man's head, that the woman might assume authority over the man, but from man's side, from over His heart, the seat of affections, that woman might stand at his side as man's equal and side by side with him together, under Yahweh, to work out the purpose and destiny of the human race.

Man, the strong, noble and dignified and woman the weaker, the sympathetic and loving. How much more inspiring is this view than the theory that we all developed from the lower order of animals. The evolution theory is just another one of Satan's attacks on the family. Let's go to Genesis 2:24 ***“Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and shall cleave unto his wife and they shall be one flesh.”***

Here we see that the family was handed down to us from the Garden of Eden. In the first 2 chapters of Genesis concerning creation Yahweh gave three blessings. One concerned the Sabbath in Genesis 2:3 and the other two in Genesis 1:22, 28 had to do with families. I think it is very important to see what Yahweh thought worthy of blessing. The family and the Sabbath were blessed by Yahweh to promote social order and human happiness. Yahweh set everything up perfectly for us and as long as we keep His laws and go by the directions He gives there would be no reason for the mess the world finds itself in today.

Our responsibility is to keep our families intact and to hand down Yahweh's truth from generation to generation. We all know what Deuteronomy 6:1-7 says and we should know why this is called the great commandment.

When the divine origin of the family is recognized and the divine principles controlling it are obeyed, the family is indeed a blessing but when these are disregarded we invite Satan into our homes and untold evil will surely follow. That which is rightly used is of the greatest blessing, when abused becomes the greatest curse.

There are 3 verses I'd like to close with:

Psalm 128:2-4 ***“You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like live shoots around your table. Thus is the man blessed who fears Yahweh.”***

Psalm 127:3-5 ***“Sons are a heritage from Yahweh, children a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one's youth. Blessed is the man***

whose quiver is full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.”

Proverbs 17:6 *“Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children.”*