

The Authorized King James Bible Based Definition of Marriage

Ark Baptist College and Ark Youth Ministries appreciates and values God's gift of marriage between man and woman that God created in His own image, Genesis 1:27, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him: male and female created he them." As Ark Baptist College and Ark Youth Ministries are committed to providing our students and/or church members with a biblical worldview, Ark Baptist college and Ark Youth Ministries believes and practices what the Bible says about marriage and operates according to that faith commitment. We abide by Jesus's teaching on marriage when he said in Matthew 19:4b-6, 4b, "Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, 5, And said, For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? 6, "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." The definition of marriage provided by Jesus includes several important truths that Ark Baptist college and Ark Youth Ministries expects all board members, faculty members, students, staff and/or church members to value and abide by:

First, marriage is a covenant designed by God, Matthew 19:4b. **Second**, his biblical definition of marriage is not conditioned by culture or personal perspective but decided by God from the beginning and expected to continue until eternity (v. 4b - 6). **Third**, marriage is intended to be between one man and one woman as God biologically created them male and female at birth (v. 4b). Hence, any other proposals for marriage are outside of God's intended design (see also Leviticus 18:22, 20:13-16; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; and 1 Timothy 1:9-10). **Fourth**, the marriage covenant is sealed through sexual intercourse which should be reserved for one husband and one wife after they have entered the holy covenant of marriage (v. 5). **Fifth**, God's design is for marriage to last until the death of one of the spouses (v. 6 and Matthew 22:30).

Therefore, the Ark Baptist College and Ark Youth Ministries defines marriage as a divinely designed biblical covenant between one man and one woman and God that is intended to represent the relationship of Christ and the Church, and last until the death of either spouse. This view of marriage is affirmed in the authorized King James Bible's Old Testament as well as the New Testament (see Genesis 1:27, 2:23-24; Malachi 2:14; Song of Solomon 2:7, 16; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:22-33; Hebrews 13:4).