

3 FOLD CORD

Building Lasting Marriages on a Firm Foundation

Weekly Devotional

WEEK THIRTEEN -

Contract or Covenant?

Therefore, not even the first covenant was dedicated without blood
Hebrews [9:18](#) (NKJV)

A contract is made with the intent of protecting oneself from hurt or loss. In the case of marriage, this contract is called a *pre-nuptial* agreement. In other words, preparing in advance for this dissolution of the marriage, and the protection of our assets in the event the marriage fails. This in and of itself speaks of lack of trust, fear, and the lack of knowledge of God's Word, and for the Christian, should not be an option. God's Word tells us that marriage is not a *contract*, but instead a *covenant*.

A covenant is designed by God to be *eternally* binding, *and unbreakable*. There is no escape clause. Jesus bound Himself to us (His Bride) to Himself by the covenant of His blood, meaning that we would *always* remain His, and that He would never leave us nor forsake us. Likewise, when we enter into the marriage covenant, we declare until death do us part, vowing never to abandon or leave the other until death separates us.

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Mark 19:9 tells us, *Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.*"

(NKJV) This speaks not only to those *outside* of the marriage, but also to the two making up the marriage itself. *We* are not to allow anything to separate us, and *we* are not to be the *cause* of the dissolution of the marriage.

The question to us today, is are we treating our marriage as a contract or a covenant? Are we in only until things get rocky, or uncomfortable?

Or are we fully committed and honoring of the vows that we declared to each other *and before God* at the altar when everything was peachy keen, and we were unaware of each other's flaws and faults?

The Bible reminds us of how, and *when*, Jesus made His covenant with us, *But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.* Romans 5:8 (NKJV) Jesus was willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for us *before* we ever made any change whatsoever, and still behaving poorly. He bound Himself to us through *His blood*. He was *all in* and fully committed to us, and continues still to be, even when we falter and make mistakes. He is our great example. We need to be all in, fully committed to each other, not until mistakes and hardships do us part, but until death us do part, no escape clause necessary.

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