



Chuck Swindoll

Some sections of Scripture resemble minefields full of explosives rather than treasurer chests full of truth. Ephesians chapter 5 is one such chapter. When read in light of 21st century progressive norms, some of these ideas seem old fashioned to some and downright dangerous to others.

²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²² Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Ephesians 5:21-24

¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. <u>Sing and make music</u> from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ..)

Ephesians 5:18-20

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Ephesians 5:21,22

²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²² Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Ephesians 5:21-24

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Ephesians 5:25-27

²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—³⁰ for we are members of his body.

Ephesians 5:28-30

31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.
33 However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Ephesians 5:31-33

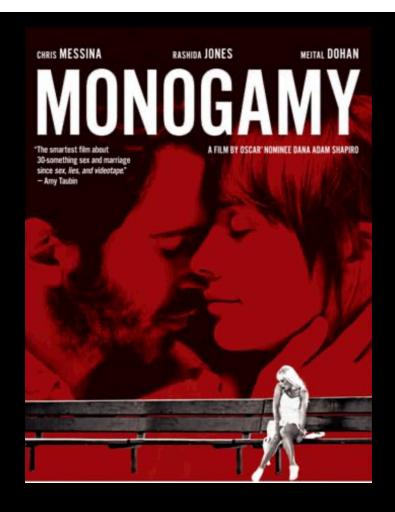
1. What is the biblical definition of marriage?

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be *united* to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." verse 31

1. What is the biblical definition of marriage?

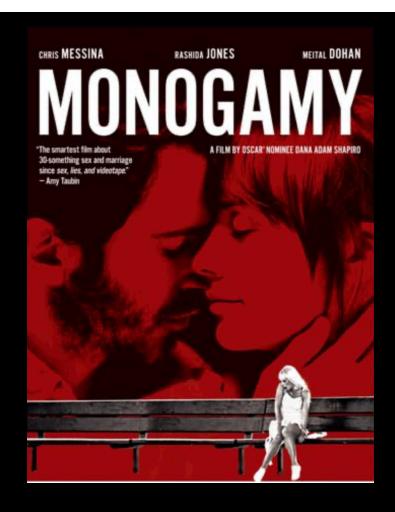
united/cleave -COVENANT

A permanent relationship thru personal commitment.



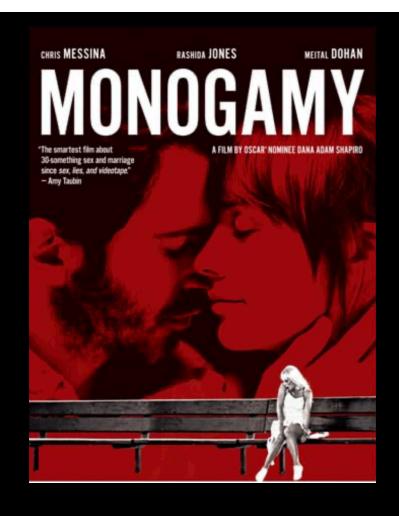
Dana Adam Shapiro





NYT Magazine

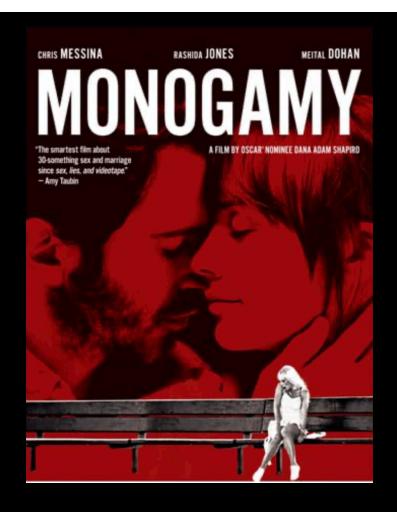
"intractable difficulty" with monogamy.



NYT Magazine

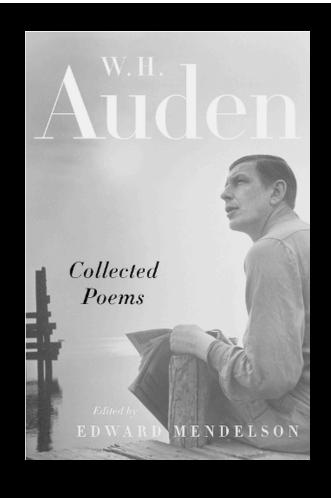
What was the difficulty?

Passion & Sexual Chemistry need spontaneity.



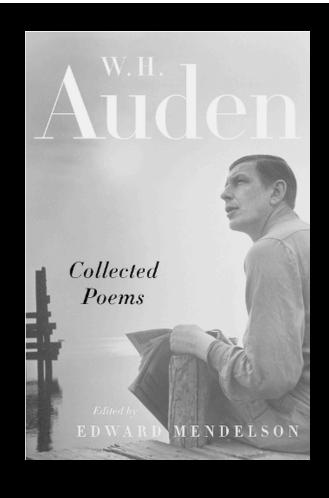
NYT Magazine

What you do in marriage is a matter of duty because it's obligatory. So if passion and chemistry need spontaneity and marriage is all about duty, marriage inevitably stifles it.



Auden wrote:

"... any marriage, happy or unhappy, is infinitely more interesting than any romance, however passionate."



Auden wrote:

"not the involuntary result of fleeting emotion but the creation of time and will."

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, **just as** Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—

Ephesians 5:25-29

1st purpose of marriage is for the husband to Lead by living sacrificially.

(Jesus) gave himself up for (true believers) ²⁶ to make (us) holy, cleansing (us) by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present (true believers) to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Ephesians 5:25-27

In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church–Ephesians 5:28,29

2nd purpose of marriage It is to bridge the gap Between Men and Women

To the wives God says: Headship

²² Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.

²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

The Bible tells us **two things** in the text that crack open this whole idea of headship in marriage.

1st thing:

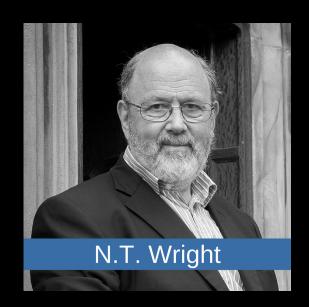
The man <u>must never</u> exercise headship to please himself

"Love your wives as Christ loved the church and sacrificed, died, for her, gave himself up for her."

verse 25

2nd thing:

It's the husband's job to always put the needs and desires of his wife ahead of his own.



"Paul assumes, as do most cultures, that there are significant differences that go far beyond biological and reproductive function. Their relations and roles must therefore be mutually complementary, rather than identical. And within marriage the guideline is clear. The husband has to take the lead-though he is to do so fully mindful of the self-sacrificial model which Jesus the Messiah has provided. As soon as 'taking the lead' becomes bullying or arrogant, the whole thing collaspes."

3. What does marriage need?

"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." vs. 21

3. What does marriage need?

Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. John 14:24

We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. 1 John 2:3

4. What marriage show us.

"This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church." Verse 32



John MacArthur

A husband's great motive for loving and caring for his wife is Christ's love, protecting and caring for his own bride, the church. Christian marriage is to be loving, self-sacrificing and mutually submissive because those virtues characterize the relationship of Jesus and the church.

