

## Why Extramarital Sex Is Prohibited: Scofield's Synopsis of the Bible: The Plan of God Begins with Marriage, Post-Fall It Continues with Procreation; Line of Christ

12. Dr. Cyrus Scofield makes some very important points in his Study Bible:

**Scofield, C. I. (ed.). "The Overall Plan of the Bible," in *The Scofield Study Bible: NASB*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), xiv, xv:**

*The Overall Plan of the Bible.* From beginning to end the Bible has one great theme: the Person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. All Scripture is rightly related initially to Him.

*The Bible is a book composed of books.* Each of the sixty-six books is complete in itself and has its own theme and analysis. It is of great importance that each book be studied in the light of its distinctive themes. **Genesis, for instance, is the book of beginnings—the seed-plot of the whole Bible.** (p. xiv)

**Beginning, logically, with the creation of the earth and of the first human being, the story of our race which sprang from the first human pair continues through the first eleven chapters of Genesis.** In the twelfth chapter begins the history of Abraham and of the nation of which Abraham was the ancestor. It is that nation, Israel, with which the subsequent Bible narrative is chiefly concerned, from the eleventh chapter of Genesis to the second chapter of Acts. The Gentiles are mentioned, but only in connection with Israel. It is made increasingly clear that Israel so fills the scene only because this nation was entrusted with the accomplishment of great worldwide purposes (Deut. 7:7).

*The Bible tells the human story.* The Gospels record the appearance of the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ, in human history and within the Hebrew nation, and tell the wonderful story of His manifestation to Israel, His rejection by that people, His crucifixion, resurrection and ascension.

The book of Acts records the descent of the Holy Spirit and the beginning of a new entity in human history, the Church. The division of the race now becomes threefold—the Jew, the Gentile, and the Church of God (1 Cor. 10:32). Just as Israel is in the foreground from the call of Abram to the resurrection of Christ, so now the church fills the scene from the second chapter of Acts to the fourth chapter of Revelation. The remaining chapters of that book complete the story of humanity and the final triumph of Christ.

*The central theme of the Bible is Christ.* It is this manifestation of Jesus Christ, His person as God revealed in the flesh (1 Tim. 3:16), His sacrificial death and His resurrection, that constitute the Gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-4). All preceding Scripture leads to this; all following Scripture proceeds from this. The Gospel is preached in Acts and explained in the Letters. The topic of Christ, Son of God, Son of man, Son of Abraham, Son of David thus binds the many books into one Book.

**As seed of the woman (Genesis. 3:15), He is the ultimate destroyer of Satan and his works;** as seed of Abraham, He is the benefactor of the world; as seed of David, He is Israel's King, the desire of all nations (Hag. 2:7). Exalted to the right hand of God, He is Head overall to the Church, which is His body; while to Israel and the nations the promise of His return forms the one and only rational expectation that humanity will yet fulfill itself. Meanwhile, the Church looks momentarily for the fulfillment of His special promise, "I will come again and receive you to Myself" (John 14:3). It is to Him that the Holy Spirit throughout this Church Age bears testimony. The last book of all, the consummation book, is "the Revelation of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 1:1). (p. xv)

13. Genesis records the Lord's creation of Homo sapiens, the first being our original parents, Adam and Ishah. The very reason that the Lord created the woman is expressed in:

**Genesis 2:18 -** Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man [אָדָם *ha-atham*: Adam] to be alone [בַּדְּבָר *bath*: the circumstance of being along by oneself]; I will make him a helper [עֲזָרָה *'azar*: helper, assistant, counterpart] suitable [נֶגֶד *negeth*: "in front of" plus the prefix כֶּ *ke*: "corresponding with": a counterpart responding to him] for him."

14. Then the Lord extracted a rib from Adam and, with its rich supply of pluripotent stem cells, was able to fashion the woman:

**Genesis 2:22** - The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man.

**Genesis 2:23** - And the man [ **אָדָם** *ha-atham: Adam* ] said, “At last! Bone out from my bones [ **ribs** ], / and flesh out from my flesh [ **DNA** ]; / This one shall be called Woman [ **אִשָּׁה** *'Ishshah: Woman; wife* ], / Because she was taken out of Ish [ **אִישׁ** *'Ish: Man; husband* ].”

15. This is the establishment of the divine institution of marriage. It is defined as the union of the souls and bodies of one man with one woman for life.
16. After the fall, the definition of marriage was expanded to include procreation for the purpose of providing the line of Christ whose ultimate sacrifice would resolve the sin problem of the human race:

**Genesis 3:15** - And I will put enmity between you [ **Lucifer** ] and the woman, and between your seed [ **unbelieving humanity** ] and her seed [ **the virgin-born Messiah** ]; He [ **the Seed** ] shall bruise you on the head [ **Satan's final doom** ], and you [ **Lucifer** ] shall bruise Him [ **Messiah** ], on His heel [ **a reference to the cross** ].

17. Dr. Scofield wrote, “From beginning to end the Bible has one great theme: the Person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. All Scripture is rightly related initially to Him.”
18. This principle requires us to evaluate these passages on marriage in light of their relationship to Christ:
- Marriage is a divine institution founded by Christ that incorporates one man with one woman.
  - It consists of the union of the souls and bodies of one man with one woman for life.
  - Its subsequent purpose following the fall was to procreate other *Homo sapiens* with an emphasis on developing a genetic line as a channel to the Savior.
  - Others that are born in the process are to be evangelized so that they might be saved, become witnesses for the prosecution, receive conveyance of escrow blessings, and enjoy eternal life.
19. In order for these things to consistently and efficiently occur the family was decreed as a divine institution for the nurturing and training of children with the objective of evangelizing them.
20. The married couple is delegated the responsibility of protecting and providing for these children so in time they are able to take the Gospel into the next generation by entering into marriage, forming a home, and having a family.
21. This system is designed initially to produce the Messiah and then a maximum number of believers who would join Him in the eternal future by means of eternal life in resurrection bodies.