



**MARRIAGE**

**OR**

**COHABITATION?**



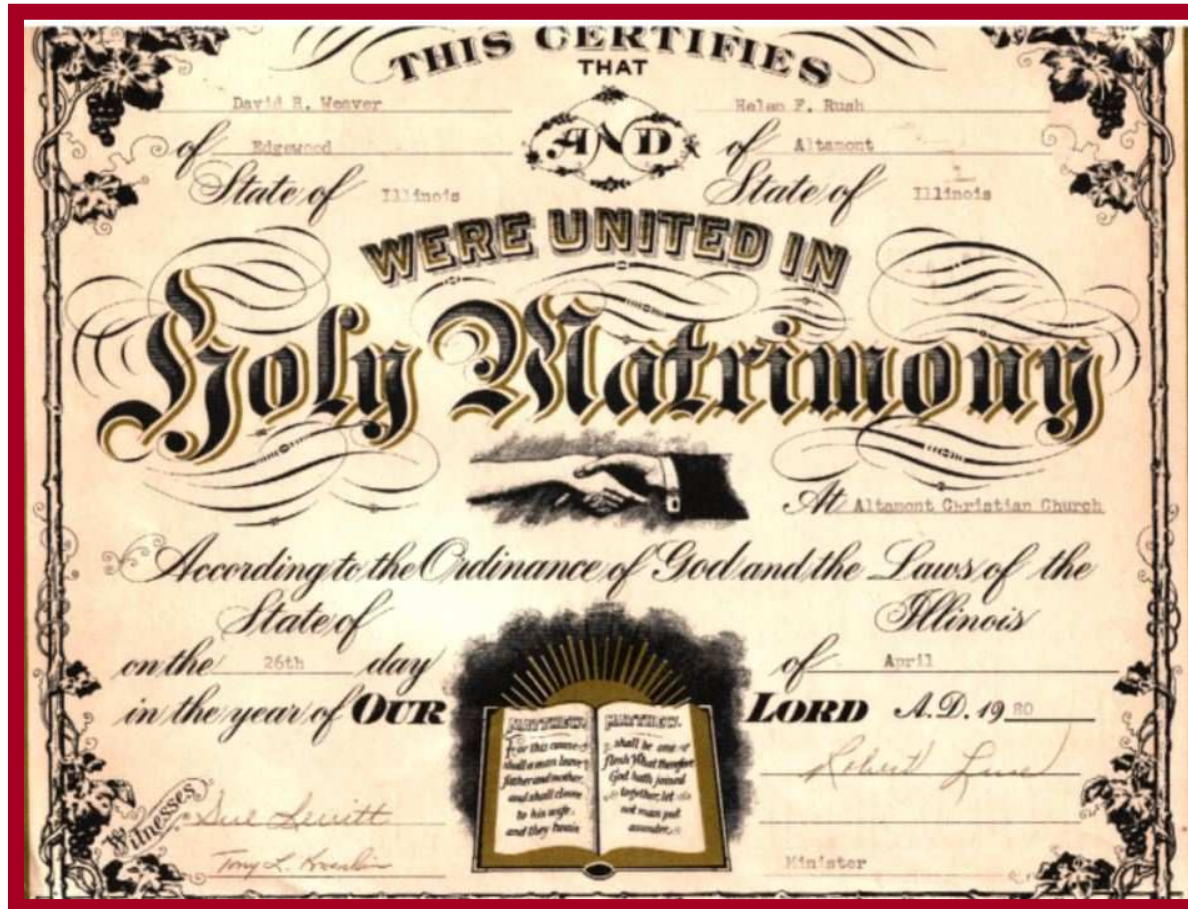
**World In Which We Live.**

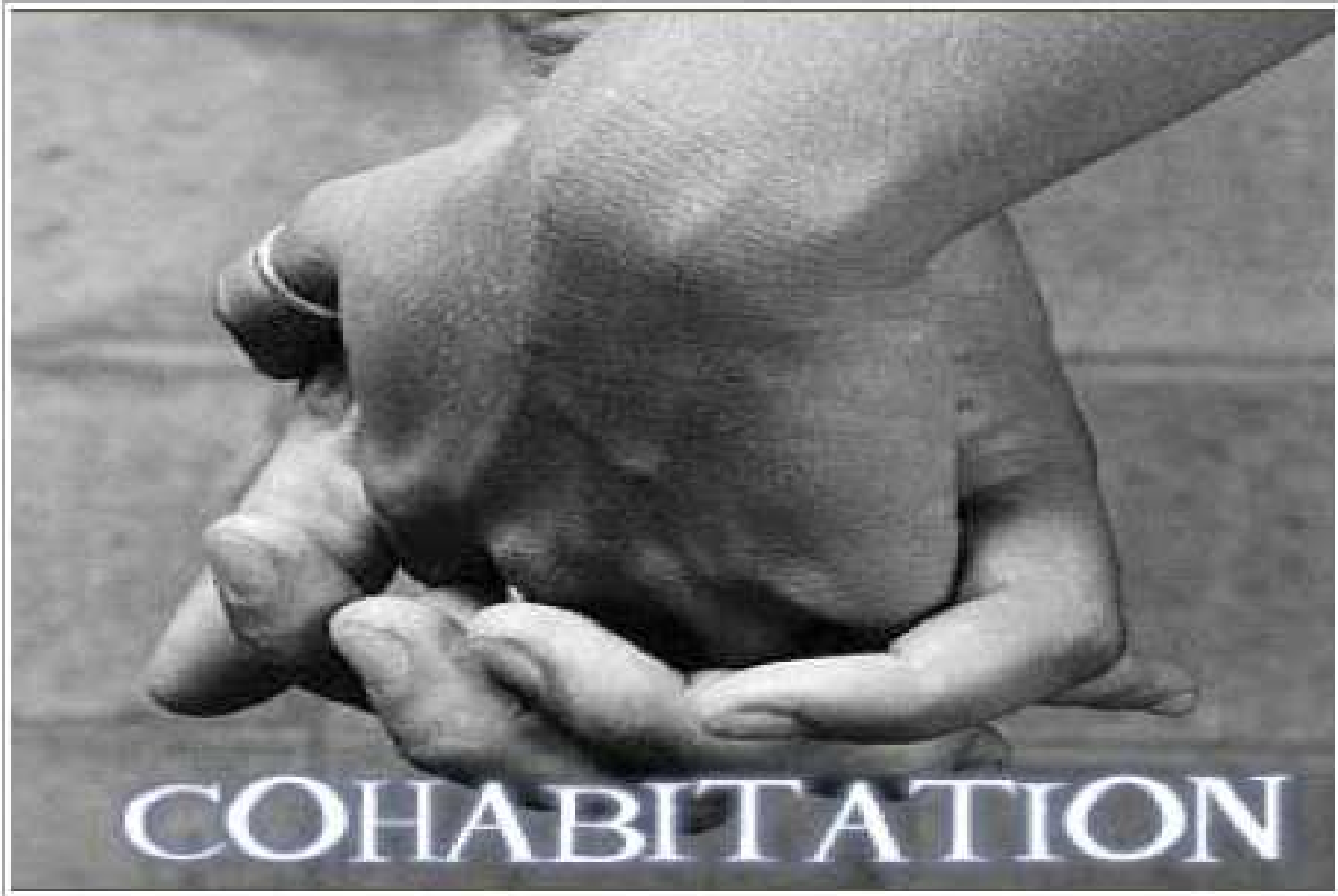
**“No Objective, Universal  
Truth. All Is Relative.”**

(Post-Modernism)

# Marriage Is Much More Than A Piece of Paper.

Define:





# Cohabitation Defined

“live together and have a sexual relationship without being married.”

Origin of term: “mid 16th cent.: from Latin *cohabitare*, from *co-* ‘together’ + *habitare* ‘dwell.’”

*Oxford English Dictionary*

**“Living Together”**

# Statistics and Realities.

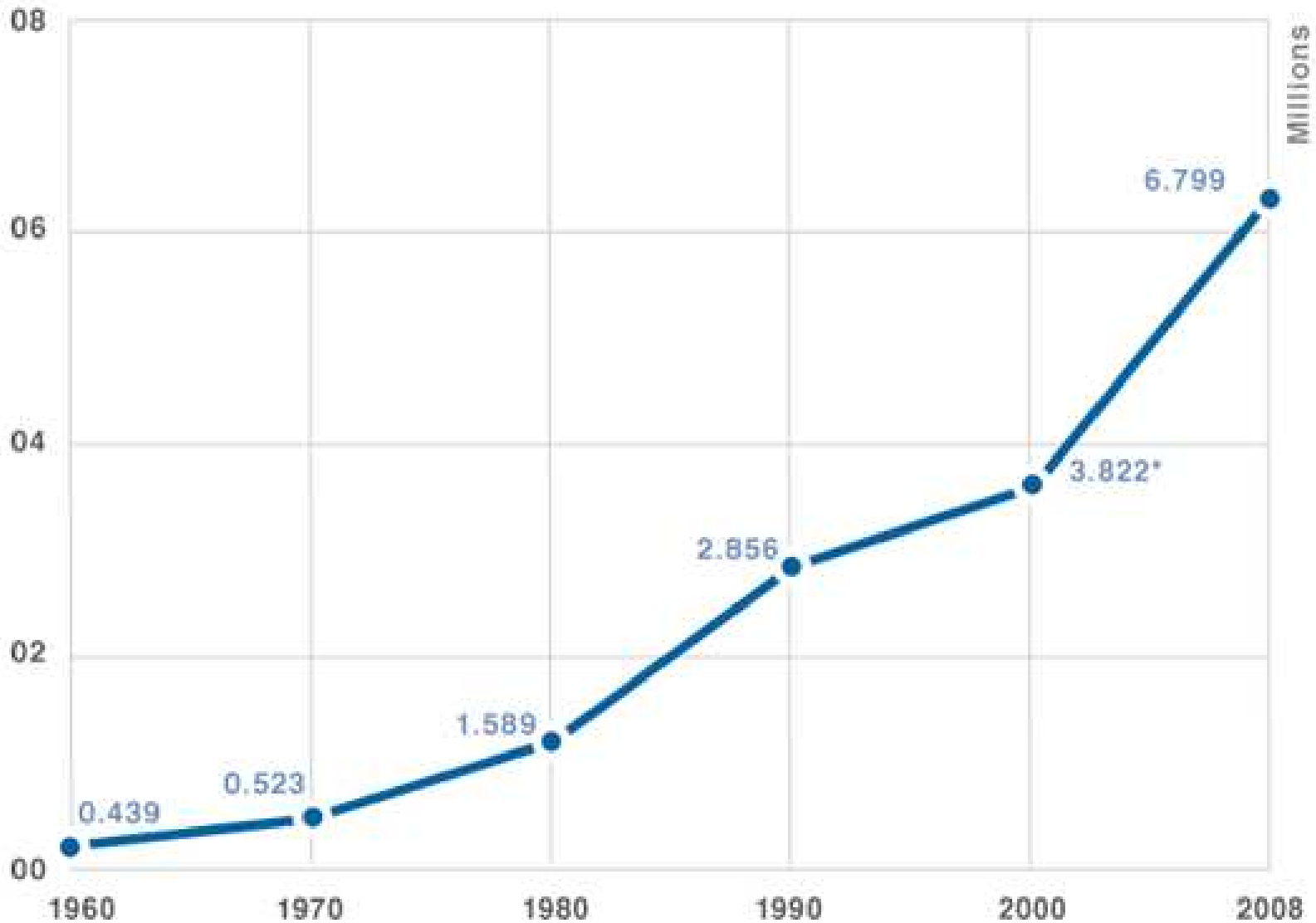
- **The ultimate reality is that God exists and He is the governor of the world. This Includes the Family and Marriage no matter what men do or declare.**

**His WILL stands in the end.**

- **Much of the world is going the way of Romans 1:18-32.**
- **There is a better way!**

**THE NEW MORALITY ISN'T NEW  
IT IS ACTUALLY  
THE OLD MORALITY REVISITED.**

**FIGURE 7. NUMBER OF COHABITING, UNMARRIED, ADULT COUPLES OF THE OPPOSITE SEX, BY YEAR, UNITED STATES**

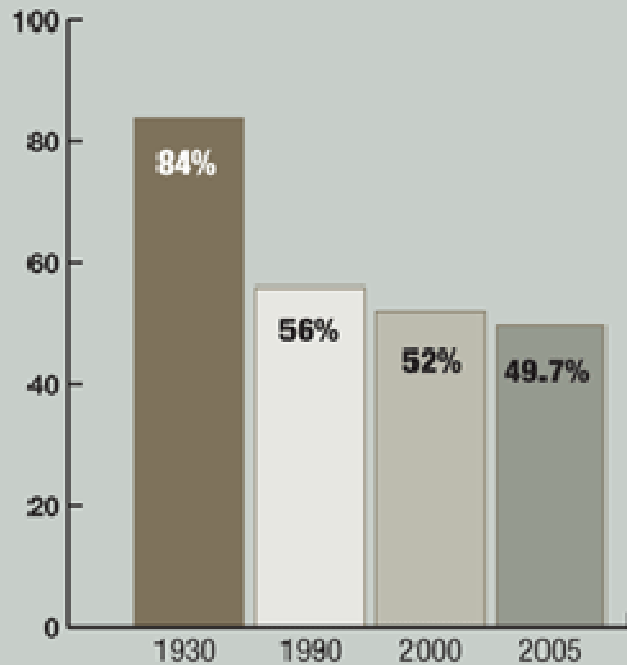


Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

# Married Couples

## 1. A disappearing institution?

The attractiveness of marriage may be waning. The percentages of U.S. households that are home to a married couple

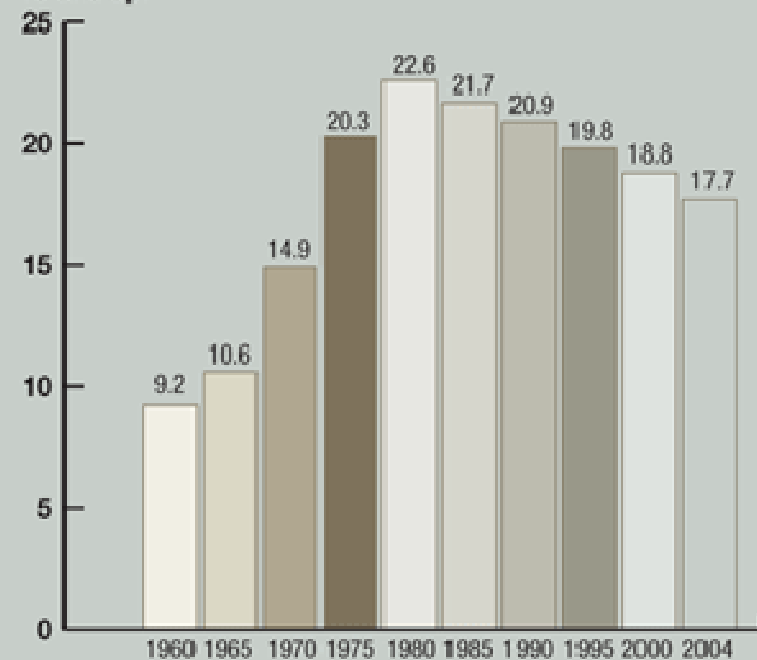


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# Divorce Rate

## 2. Divorce: High but dropping

After a sharp rise beginning in 1960, divorces in the U.S. have begun to decline moderately over the last 25 years. Number of U.S. divorces per 1,000 married women age 15 and up:

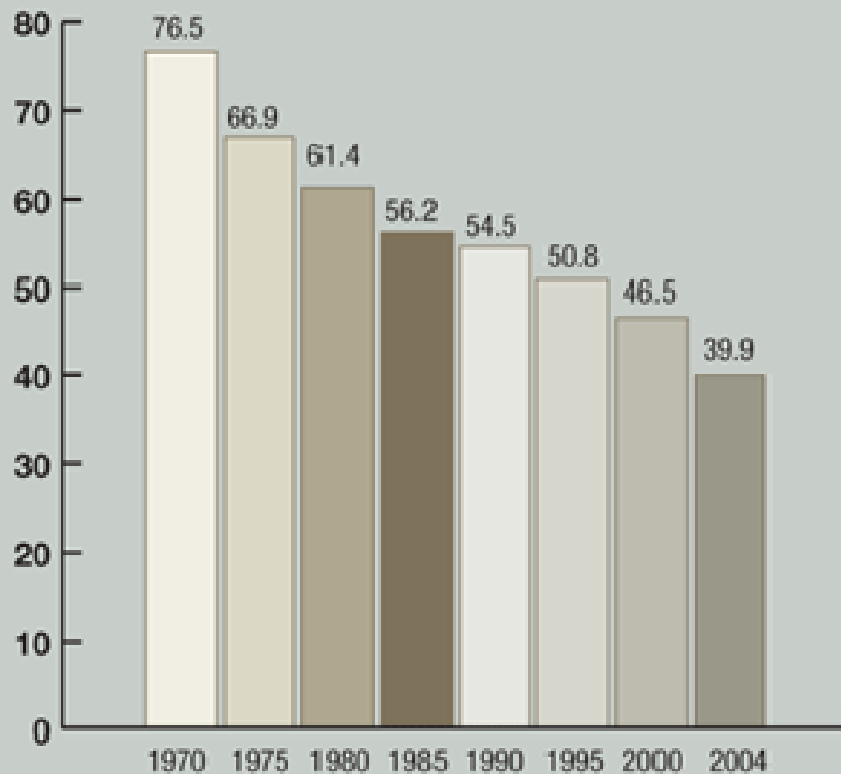


Source: The National Marriage Project, 2005

# People Entering

## 3. Marriage plunging

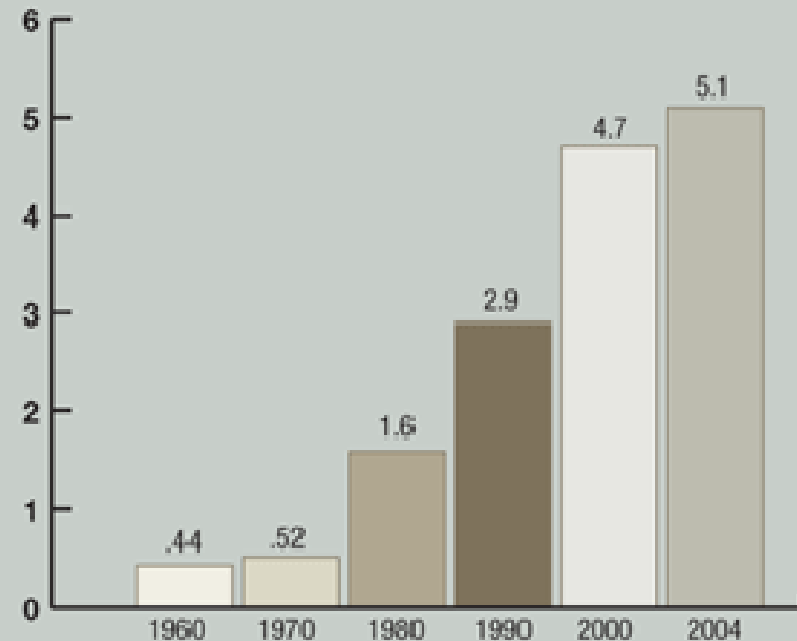
In the U.S. the trend is clearly away from marriage. The number of marriages per 1,000 unmarried women who are 15 years old and older:



# Cohabitation

## 4. Cohabitation skyrocketing

One of the most challenging trends of the last four decades has been the startling increase in cohabitation as a prelude to or substitute for marriage. Number of U.S. cohabiting couples who are (1) unmarried, (2) adult and (3) opposite sex (in millions):



Source: The National Marriage Project, 2005

# Some Things The Bible States.

- ✓ **Genesis 2:18-25 Creation Order**
  - **Matt. 19:3-6 From creation – for this...**
  - **Eph. 5:31 (22-33) For THIS cause**
- ✓ **1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Immorality**
  - **(Note verse 9-11) Not inherit...**
- ✓ **Deut. 22:13-30 If any man takes a wife.** (proof of virginity the night of marriage)
- ✓ **John 4:16-18 N.T. times – plenty of problems.**

**Hebrews 13:4**



A woman with long, flowing red hair is shown from the chest up, holding a large, glowing red apple with a green leaf. The background is dark with swirling, ethereal patterns. The text is overlaid on the image.

# Fruit of...

- 1. Cohabitation**
- 2. Divorce**
- 3. Dysfunctional Homes**

# Impact Upon Home & Children.

- **Malachi 2:15**
- **Proverbs 22:6**
- **Ephesians 6:4**

**The family is the nucleus  
of civilization.  
Will Durant**

People are being selfish, thinking of themselves not the family or society's good.

**"A great civilization is not conquered from without until it has destroyed itself from within."**

**"Civilization begins with order, grows with liberty, and dies with chaos." *also by W.D.***

# **Passions And Relationships Are Strong.**

- **Consider the Proverbs**
  - ✓ (9:13-19) Woman of folly invites
  - ✓ (7:22) “As an ox goes to slaughter”
- **King David**
  - ✓ 2 Samuel 11-12 Bathsheba & Uriah
- **King Solomon**
  - ✓ 1 Kings 11:1-8; Neh. 13:23-27  
“caused even him to sin”

**Another abuse of God's creation-  
Pornography.**

**CENSORED**

**“Sexual Immorality, impurity, sensuality”**

**Galatians. 5:19**

**“Looking on a woman...”**

**Matthew 5:27-30**



**Pornography**

**THE NATURE OF SIN**



Strangler Fig Early On



Strangler Fig Early On



Strangler Fig Mature



A photograph of a large, ancient-looking tree with a thick trunk and numerous aerial roots extending down to the ground. The tree is surrounded by lush green foliage and other trees in the background. The ground is covered with rocks and some moss. The overall scene is a dense forest.

**Strangler Fig Deeply Rooted**



# **MARRIAGE**

**IS THE WAY OF GOD, DESIGNED AS A  
BLESSING AND VIOLATION OF THAT  
IS AN AFFRONT TO GOD.**

**THERE IS GREAT BEAUTY IN  
MARRIAGE AS GOD WOULD HAVE IT.**