

**Marriage:** The purpose of marriage is to reflect the relationship of Jesus and the church. **Biblical view of marriage is a sacred and permanent covenant witnessed by God.**

**Covenant (Berith) a binding agreement between two parties. (Diatheke) means to cut covenant. Blood covenant is an agreement cut by the shedding of blood. The two sections in the Bible are the Older blood covenant, and the Newer blood covenant.**

Blood covenant is the closest most sacred of agreements. It can never be broken. You make a promise to give all of your life, love, protection forever, until death. **Below is the act of making a covenant in Bible times:**

1. Exchange their robe, take off his coat or robe, symbolizing the giving of themselves to each other.
2. Take off his belt, indicating (as the belt contained weapons of warfare) that 'your battles are now my battles'.
3. Cut Covenant: they sacrificed an animal, cut it in half and stood together between the divided portions.
4. Raised their right arms, and after cutting their palms placed both of them together. At this moment, as their blood intermingled, *they* would swear their undying allegiance to each other.
5. Exchange names. Each took part of the other's name, symbolizing their newly established bond.
6. Make a scar in each other's palms by rubbing their wounds together. The scar would remind them of their covenant responsibilities.
7. Covenant Terms, they identified their assets and said, at the same time, 'From now on all that I own is yours.'
8. Ate a memorial meal by cooking the flesh of the sacrificed animal and eating it together.
9. Plant a Memorial, they planted a tree as a perpetual memorial to their covenant, and sprinkled it with the blood of the sacrificed animal.

**Duet. 7:9 He is always Faithful**

**Duet. 31:8 He will never leave you or forsake you**

**Matt. 28:18-20 I am with you always, even until the end of the age**

**God is the author of Marriage! It was His idea. God always expresses the spiritual thru the physical. Covenants in the Bible between men and women's were done in the presence of God and always involved a ceremony. Why?, Because the ceremony solidified the commitment before all parties involved (The 2 people & God)!**

## MARRIAGE GOD'S WAY

The Marriage ceremony without true commitment was just a party. The ceremony has more to do with all involved coming out to witness your commitment to one another and to agree to do their part to hold you accountable to that commitment!

**It makes no sense for 2 people to be in Covenant with God but not in Covenant with each other.**

The reason that people that are together but don't want to get married are saying, I want the "benefits" of Covenant without the commitment of Covenant. Consumption without Commitment is not Covenant!!!

**THINKING ABOUT MARRIAGE? GOD paralleled BLOOD COVENANT to marriage.**

**(MAN) Malachi 2:10-16 (WOMAN) Proverbs 2:17**

**The Newer blood covenant. 1 Peter 1:18-20**

**Hebrews 8:6-8.** This lets us know, if we want God's involvement in our lives we must then comply with the covenant Jesus Christ has mediated to us.

**COVENANT = We live the good life (Ephesians 2:4-10, Ephesians 2:18-22).**

**COVENANT IS ALL OF GOD > FOR ALL OF YOU.**

**(All of you for all of your spouse)**

*WHAT IF >>>> we lived our marriage out like we were married to Christ ?  
.....How do you think they would respond to you?*

**TALKER/LISTENER (STOP trying to WIN and take time to COMMUNE)**

**(1 Peter 3:7-10)** Showing you value the person by learning how to communicate.

**BE HONEST** in what you are about to say/hear, **Agree to cooperate**, each of you will get a turn in both roles. **ANGER has no place (Ephesians 4:26-27).**

### **Resources:**

Bible

The Miracle of the Scarlet Thread Expanded Edition ~ Richard Booker

Love & Respect book

The 5 Love Languages