

A Strong Delusion

II Thes. 2:11; Isaiah 66:4 sister prophecy: "YHWH will send them strong delusions that they should believe a lie, because when he called, there was none to answer."

Bereshith 2:24-Therefore a man shall leave and be separated from the bedroom of his father and his mother, and shall be united to his WIFE and the TWO of them shall become one flesh. Targum Pseudo Jonathan

Al-ken ya'azov-ish et-aviv ve'et imo ve'davak be-ishto ve'hayu le'vasar-Hebrew Transliteration Bereshith 2:24

For he will leave man father o him and mother of him and he will unite to wife (singular) of him and they will be as flesh one. Literal translation

Quoted Matt.19:5; Mark 10:8; 1 Cor.6:15-17; Eph.5:31 in the Brit Chadasha –all within the context o Bereshith 2:24 concerning the joining of one man and on woman.

In Matt.19:5- The divorce is permitted due to a violation of the one-flesh integrity of marriage of on man and one woman.

Eph.5- This chapter speaks of husbands (plural) and wives (plural) and husband (singular) and wife (singular).This is Rav Shaul's metaphorical teaching about the Bride (the Yisraelite Community) and the Messiah and its comparison with the marriage of a man and a woman. Verse 31 quotes **Bereshith 2:24**. Verse 33 is in the singular not plural and is the hidden truth of the union of Messiah and His Bride (singular).

Bereshith 2:24. A man upon his marriage should not stop his affections to his parents, or be remiss in his obedience to them, honor of them, and respect for them, or to neglect the care of them; but that he should depart from his father's house, and no more dwell with him; but having taken a wife to himself, should provide an habitation for him and her to dwell together: so all the three Targums interpret it, of quitting "the house of his father, and his mother's bed", and shall cleave unto his wife; with affection, taking care of her, nourishing and cherishing her, providing all things comfortable for her, continuing to live with her, and not depart from her as long as they live: the phrase is expressive of the union by marriage between man and wife; they are, as it were, glued together, and make but one; which is more fully and strongly expressed in the next clause: and they shall be one flesh; that is, "they two", the man and his wife, as it is supplied and interpreted by Messiah, **Mt 19:5** and so here in the **Targum of Jonathan**, and in the **Septuagint** and Samaritan versions: the union between them is so close, as if they were but one person, one soul, one body; and which is to be observed against polygamy, and all uncleanness, fornication, and adultery: only one man and one woman, being joined in lawful wedlock, have a right of copulation with each other, in order to produce a legitimate offspring.

The first recorded deviation from this model is the person of Lamech, who took two wives, Adah and Zillah (**Gen 4:19**). The context suggests that his bigamous activity was coordinate with the other vices evident in Lamech's song, including murder, arrogance, vindictiveness and further murderous intent (**Gen 4:23-24**). Indeed, the unfolding of the history of humankind evidences a strong connection between violence and oppression when there is a departure from monogamy.

Recognize the basic fact that YHWH prepared ONE WIFE for Adam. This is the Scriptural pattern, and YHWH does not change (**Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8**). This is why Shaul was punished for polygamy and David was also punished, but forgiven upon repentance. We saw that the sin of polygamy overtook Solomon, and in time YHWH also punished him by taking the kingdom from his son, Rehoboam, just as He had rent the kingdom away from Shaul's house and given it to David's house (forever).

YHWH instructed Mosheh that the kings of Yisrael were to have only one wife:

*"Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away." **Deut. 17:17***

This is exactly what happened with Solomon. We read in **I Kings 11:4**:

"For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other elohim: and his heart was not perfect with YHWH his Elohim as was the heart of David his father."

David's heart was right with YHWH because he did not turn to other elohim, not because he practiced polygamy. The lack of a specific rebuke by YHWH is in no way to be taken as an acceptance or condoning by Him of the behavior.

Numerous prophets were inspired to reference marriage as a monogamous union, one that was described as a symbol of the union between YHWH and the people of Yisrael. These passages, and there are many, often describe an idolatrous ancient Yisrael who continually fell into committing what is described as *adultery* and *whoredom* with idols, with other elohim in place of YHWH.

.There are righteous men, whom the *TaNaK* calls "blameless". Since these are people in whom YHWH finds nothing wrong (they are blameless).

Noach: *"These are the records of the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with Elohim."* (**Genesis 6:9 NASB**)

Noah is described as having one wife. **Genesis 6:18, 7:7 and 7:13.**

For example **Bereshith 6:18** says: *"But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall enter the ark-you and your sons and your wife, and your sons' wives with you."* (NASB)

Iyov: *"There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was blameless, upright, fearing Elohim and turning away from evil."* - (**Job 1:1 NASB**)

How many wives did Iyov have? One.

Iyov 31:9-10 *"If my heart has been enticed by a woman, or I have lurked at my neighbor's door-way, may my wife grind for another, and let others kneel down over her."* (NASB)

Not only do these verses say "wife" (singular) and not wives, but what Job is saying is that he has never looked at another woman--he has not even had desires in his heart for another woman. Job is a one woman, one wife, man.

If you must use examples from the TaNaK to base your conclusions about polygamy on, then use examples of men YHWH calls blameless. In every case you'll see the example of marriage is ONE man and ONE woman marriage is ONE man and ONE woman.

EXCELLENT EXCERPT BY RABBI SHULEY BOTEK FROM THE TV SHOW -SHALOM IN THE HOME

Scripture makes it clear that YHWH created Adam and Chawah, not Adam, Chawah, Cindy, and Bonnie. The ideal of monogamy is thus established at the very outset of creation. Similarly Abraham, the first Hebrew, has one wife, Sarah, until she pushes him to take another wife since she is barren. Likewise, Yitzhak is completely monogamous, and Ya'akov intends to be so as well until he is tricked by his own father-in-law into marrying the wrong woman which will later necessitate marrying the correct woman as well.

The only real Scriptural examples of men with many wives are the kings, like David and Solomon. When it came to Kings, who back in ancient times would usurp whatever women they craved, the Torah sought to impose upon rulers a respect for women. This was done by allowing them to take a woman, beyond their original wives, so long as they married them, which would thereby grant their rights, rather than simply being used and discarded. But this was a concession to a virile male nature and never an ideal to be upheld, with monogamy always being the legitimate standard to which men were directed. Later, after Biblical times, Rabbeinu Gershom took the monogamous standard and made it law, enacting an edict binding on all European Jewry outlawing polygamy forever. And that has been the Jewish norm for more than a thousand years.

There is good reason to outlaw polygamy. Marriage is the most romantic institution because it establishes the inviolate uniqueness of its participants. A woman is made to feel that she is the one and only to her husband. A husband's devotion confers upon his wife the blessings of primacy and exclusivity. But polygamy subverts that pledge, establishing not a woman's uniqueness, but her ordinariness. Her husband marries her with the express understanding that she alone will not satisfy him. He requires others. She is inadequate.

Likewise, she is forced now to compete for his affections for the rest of her life, thereby immersing in her an unnatural competition for the man who has already pledged himself to her. This competition also erodes the natural fraternity and universal sisterhood of women, engaged as they are, even after marriage, for the affections of the same man.

In this sense, polygamy fosters unending rivalry and leads not to peace and harmony but to altercation and strife. How can any polygamous marriage be happy when, by its very nature, it does not bring people together but drives them apart.

Marriage is the very foundation of every civilized society precisely because of its civilizing influences. Marriage takes a man and a woman who are strangers to each other, orchestrates them together into inseparable flesh, and lends children a stable and secure environment within which to be raised.

Polygamy, however, offers children a model not of security but of rivalry, not of confidence but of permanent insecurity, as the members of a single household compete to be favorites. It is a toxic environment in which men are kings and women are courtiers.

After marrying and sacrificing all for her husband, no woman should ever have to feel that she is still not good enough.

Likewise, in the Jewish religion no woman can ever be forced to marry a man who is not her choice. As the Bible makes clear in the story of Rebecca's courtship with Yitzkak that her family says that we must 'ask the maiden' if she wishes to follow Eliezer, the matchmaker, and marry Yitzkak. Only with her consent can the deed be done.

Every marriage must be based on the exercise of the human free will to transform a stranger into our one and only.