

# *The Four Laws of Marriage*

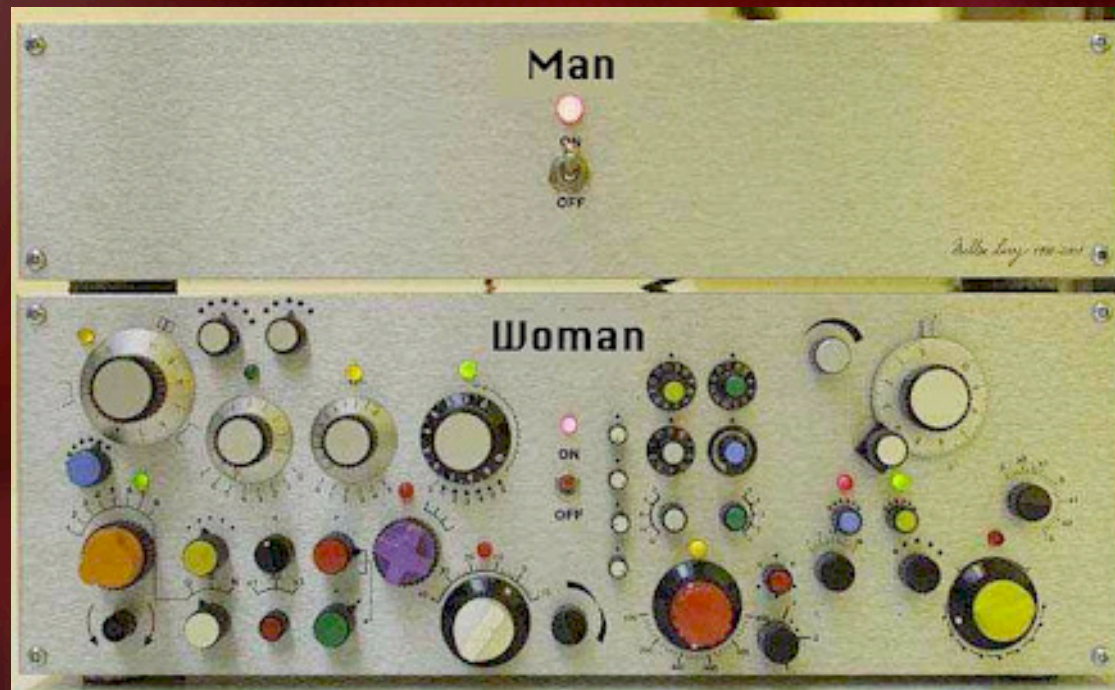
*How to Have a Marriage Made in Eden*



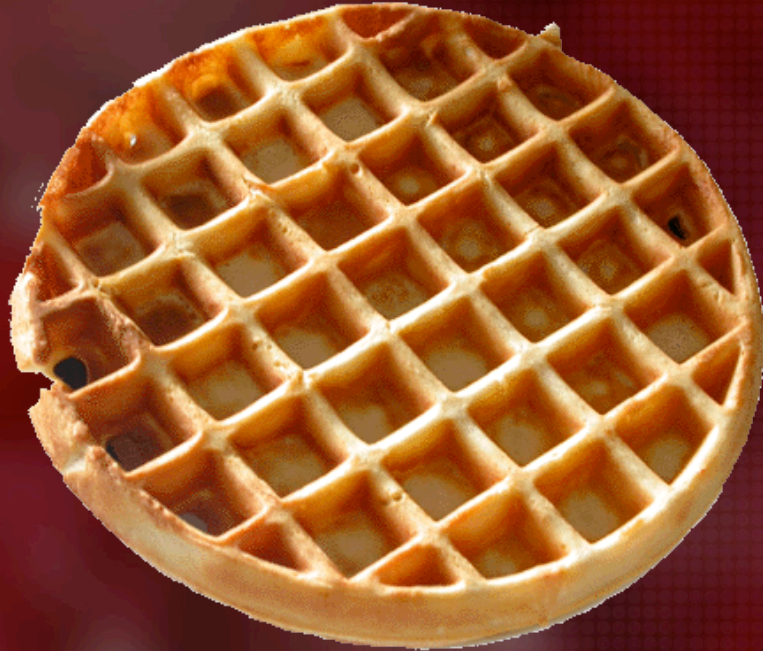
## *Genesis 1:27*

*“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”*

# *Men and Women are Different!*



# *Waffles and Spaghetti*




# *Ellen White's Marriage Sermon*

*"You each have an identity of your own, but in that identity there must be a unity. There is constantly to be a development of the faculties that God has given you, that you may improve, improve, and that you may indeed be looked upon by the heavenly angels with commendation...."*

*You are not called to give up your identity; you each have an identity of your own. These may not always run in the very same channel, and yet there may be that blending that God requires." Manuscript Releases, v. 10, p. 179*



*What is the purpose  
of marriage?*



*The purpose of marriage  
is to blending two  
different personalities  
into the image of God.*

*Is the goal of  
marriage happiness  
or holiness?*







## *Modern marriage*

- *Is founded on feelings of attraction*
- *Assumes that there is “one” other person out there who perfectly meets my needs and understands me*
- *Measures success based on happiness*



*Many marriage books don't admit this spiritual reality:*

*“Whether you have just started your life together, have had an average marriage for a number of years, have a ‘bad’ marriage, or even have had an affair, you can build or rebuild your marriage if you learn to become aware of each other’s needs and learn to meet them.” His Needs, Her Needs,*

*p. 9*

## *God's Plan vs. Satan's Plan*

*God wants to reflect to the universe His love and character. The Sabbath and marriage are the two institutions that God gave us as vehicles of holiness. Satan's plan is to pervert both institutions so that people ultimately become selfish and reflect the character of the deceiver.*

*Four Laws of  
Blending*



## *Genesis 2:23-25*

*And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.*

*Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."*

*Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.*

*And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

# *God's Plan*

- *Marriage is based on an essential unity, even though we are different.*
  - *Notice Adam's reaction, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh."*
  - *Adam experiences an attraction that is based on unity in the midst of their diversity*
- *God's plan is for two people to be united as closely as possible in their desire to reflect His image and for attraction to be based on that unity.*

*The Law of Priority*

**#1**



## *The Law of Priority*

- *“For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother...”*

*azab – “to leave or relinquish”*

- *To leave your father and mother is to move your spouse to a position of commitment that exceeds your previous commitments and takes you out of your comfort zones*

# *Legitimate Jealousy*



# *Dating vs. Marriage*



# *Dating vs. Marriage*



## *The subtle temptations*

*“He works all the time, and when he gets home, he is tired and just wants to rest. When he does get time off, he is doing something with his buddies.”*

*“She doesn’t even know when I’m home. She is so busy with the kids and the house that anything I want to get romantic or have her do something with me, she is worn out.”*

*“He/She is always on the computer ...”*



*A Willingness to Let Go*

# *The pursuit of happiness*

- *If your goal is happiness, your method of achieving it will be selfishness.*
- *If your goal is holiness, your method of achieving it will be sanctification.*

## *If your goal is happiness...*

- *Your contentment will rise and fall on your spouse's behavior.*
- *When your spouse does not please you, you will seek to manipulate him or her.*
- *You will swing from apathy to resentment, anger, disillusionment or depression.*
- *You may find yourself thinking, "If only he/she would \_\_\_\_\_, I would be happy."*
- *You will approach conflict self-protectively.*



## *If your goal is holiness...*

- *You will rely on Christ as the rock-solid foundation of your happiness and self-worth*
- *You will approach conflicts with a primary desire “not to be ministered unto, but to minister.”*
- *You will respond to conflicts lovingly and respectfully, whether or not you feel loved or respected.*
- *You will bring to your home an atmosphere of heaven.*

# *The Law of Pursuit*

... and shall cleave to his wife



## *The Law of Pursuit*

*The word “cleave” does not mean to cut or to separate, but rather, “to pursue with great energy and to cling to something zealously.”*

*There is a secret of staying in love - work!*

## *Marriage as work*

*“For the rest of your life, you must work every day at your marriage for it be rewarding and healthy. When you stop working at it, it will stop working for you.” Marriage on the Rock, p. 36*

## *Revelation 2:5*

**1. Remember therefore from where you have fallen:**

**Try to recapture that first love experience!**

**Remember what you used to do at first.**

**2. Repent**

**Literally, “do a u-turn” – admit where you went wrong and make an adjustment**

**3. And do the works you did at first**

**Invest time and energy into your relationship like you used to. Change your actions and your heart will follow.**

# *The Law of Possession*

*“And they shall become one flesh...”*



## *The Law of Possession*

*The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband.*

*For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.*

*1 Corinthians 7:3, 4 (ESV)*

# *Holding Back*





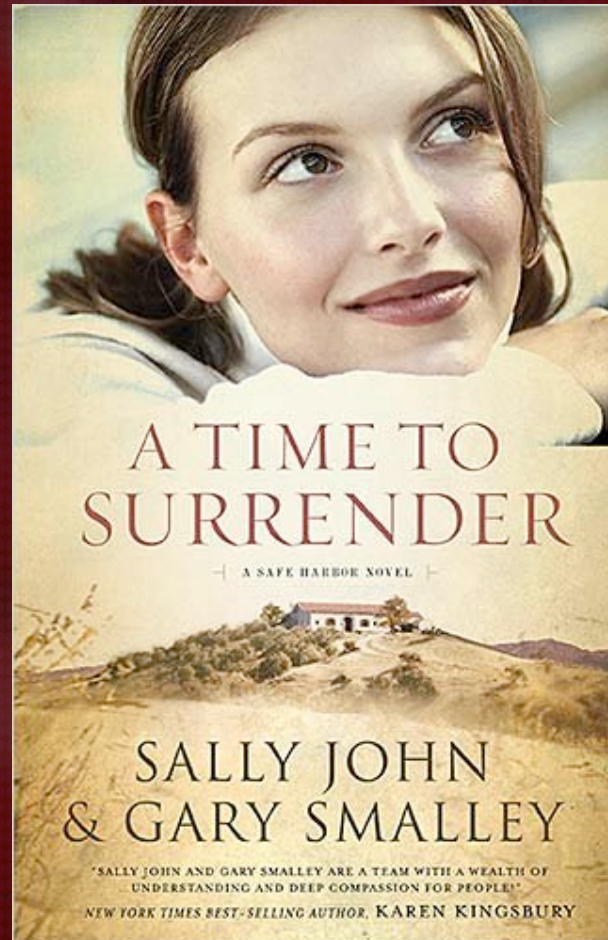
# *The Law of Possession*

- *Are you planning for your wife /husband (Or future spouse) to have full possession of?*
  - *Sex*
  - *Money*
  - *Friendships*
  - *Time*
  - *Feelings and emotions*
- *Being “one flesh” means that you enter into a state of intimate union in all areas of your life*

# *THE PRINCIPLE OF ONENESS*

Unconditional, affectionate and intimate devotion to each other that encourages mutual growth in the image of God

*Possession is a result of Surrender*



# *The Law of Purity*

*“And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.”*



A close-up photograph of a vibrant red rose, showing its intricate petals and deep red color. The rose is the central focus, with a soft, out-of-focus background. The lighting highlights the texture of the petals, creating a sense of depth and intimacy.

*God's Ideal*

*Unhindered intimacy without shame*



# *Removing the Shame*

*Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled.*

*Hebrews 13:4*

# *The Problem of Sin*

- *With sin there is an initial euphoria followed by*
  - *Guilt*
  - *Shame*
  - *Hiding*
  - *Blame*
- *These effectively destroy intimacy*

# *Dealing with Parasites*





# *How to Deal with Sin*

- *Sin affects every area of your life including your spouse*
- *Admit your sin and trust to God's plan for purity*
  - *1 John 1:9*
- *Pray for each other*
  - *James 5:16*
- *Get accountability*

The background of the slide features a dark red, textured surface with a subtle grid pattern. In the upper left corner, there is a close-up image of a red rose. The overall color scheme is dominated by various shades of red, from deep maroon to bright, glowing reds at the top and bottom edges.

## *Unhindered Intimacy*

**God's plan for your life (holiness and purity) results in true and unbounded intimacy without shame**

# *God's Plan for Your Marriage*

- *The Law of Priority*
- *The Law of Pursuit*
- *The Law of Possession*
- *The Law of Purity*