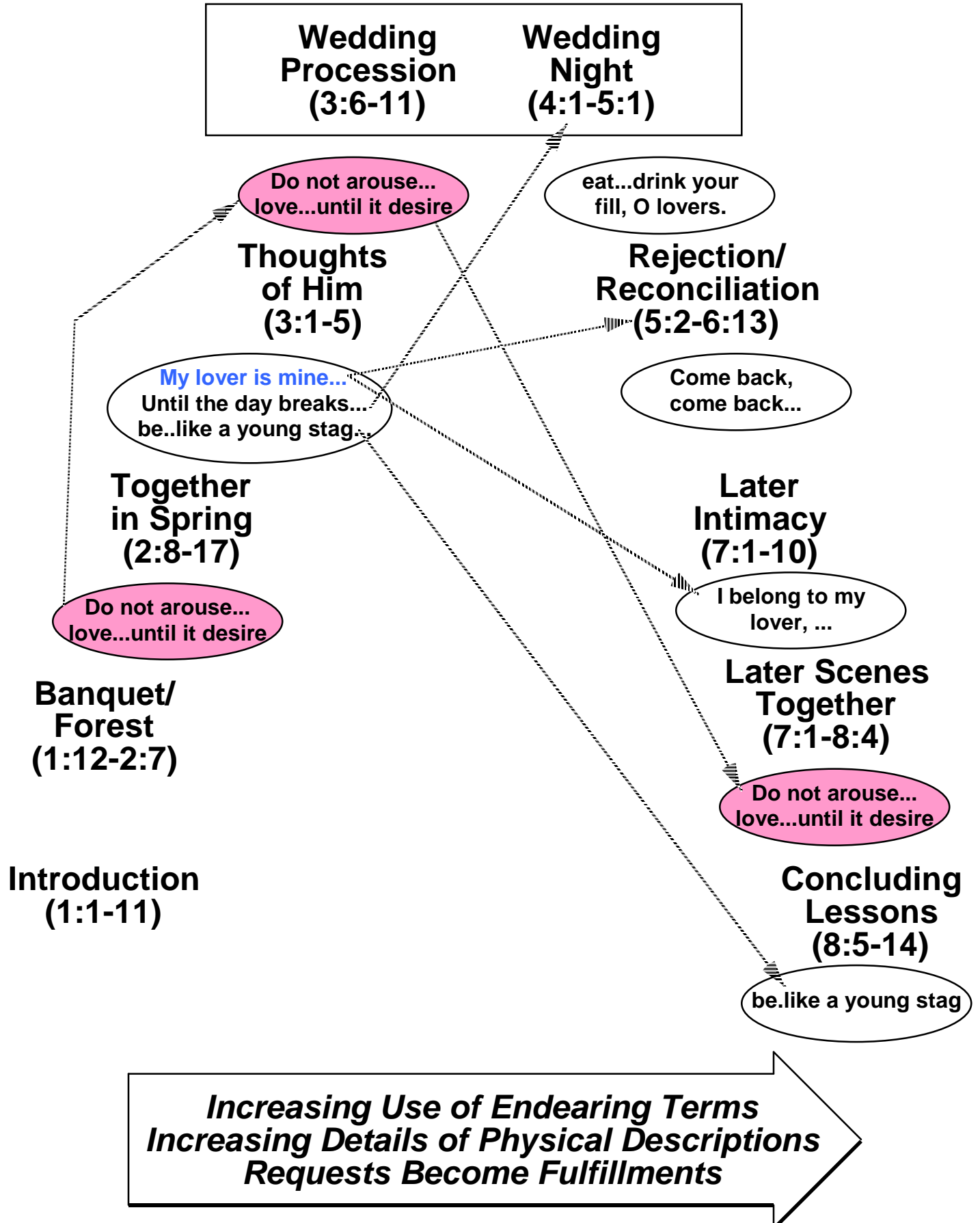


Building an Event Sequence



The Major Arguments for the Three Character View

<i>Arguments</i>	<i>Possible Answers</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solomon not a Shepherd (1:7) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solomon did own flocks (Eccl 2:7) • Bride described both as a humble girl (1:6) and a princess (7:2) • Could be a "role play" • Messiah (King) pictured as shepherd (Ezek 34)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with character of Solomon described in history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would have been early in Solomon's life • Could still have been true romantic love (see I Kings 11:1-4) • Consistent with Proverbs and Ecclesiastes pictures of Romantic Love (e.g. Prov 5:15-20 and Eccl 9:7-10)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps deal with "overly explicit" language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The girl's speeches are just as explicit (ct 4:1-7 to 4:10,11) • Appropriate in the context of married love • Consistent with Language in Prov 5:15-20)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:7b is the moral of the Song: "Money Can't Buy Love." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Likely Moral is 8:6,7: "True Love Endures Forever."

Course Roadmap

Background of Bible Teaching

The Male-Female Relationship ①

- Origin/Purpose
- Effects of the Fall
- The Ideal Relationship

Other Bases of Belief

- Pagan
- Evolutionist

God's Laws ②

- Old Testament
- New Testament

Other Views

- Moral Relativism
- Social Evolution
- Mystic/Romantic

Context of Culture

Jewish History and Culture ③

- Examples of Romance
- Marriage/Betrothals

Wisdom Literature ④

- Positive Examples
- Negative Examples
- Summary Principles

The Song

Introduction ⑤

- Author, Date, etc.
- Interpretations
- Poetic Devices

Structure ⑥

- Speakers
- Events Sequence
- Progress of Time

Textual Exposition ⑦-12

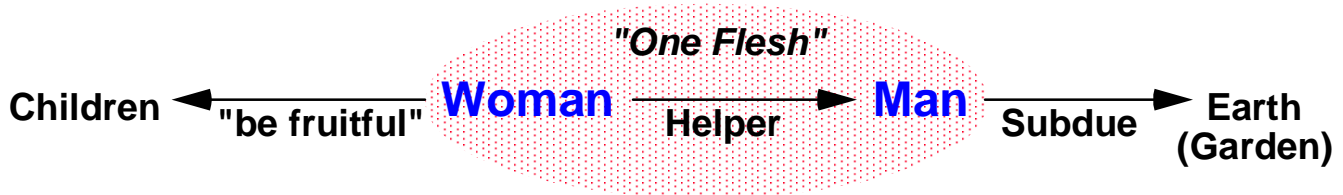
- Outline
- Exposition of the Text
- Analysis & Application

Applications & Actions ⑬

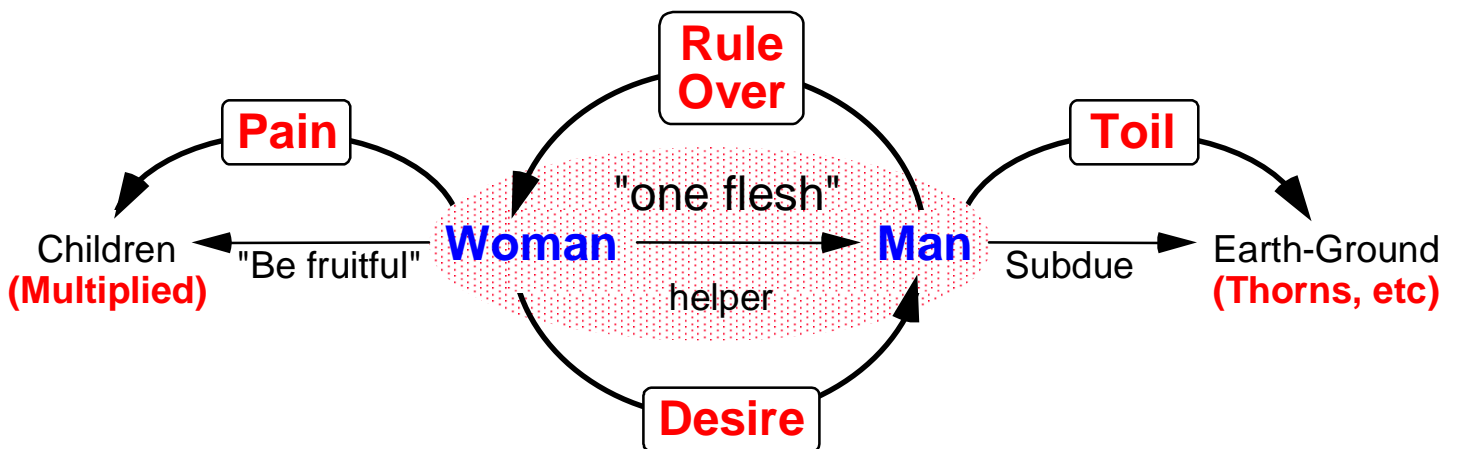
- For Unmarried
- For Married

The Man - Woman Relationship Before and After the Fall

Before the Fall



After the Fall

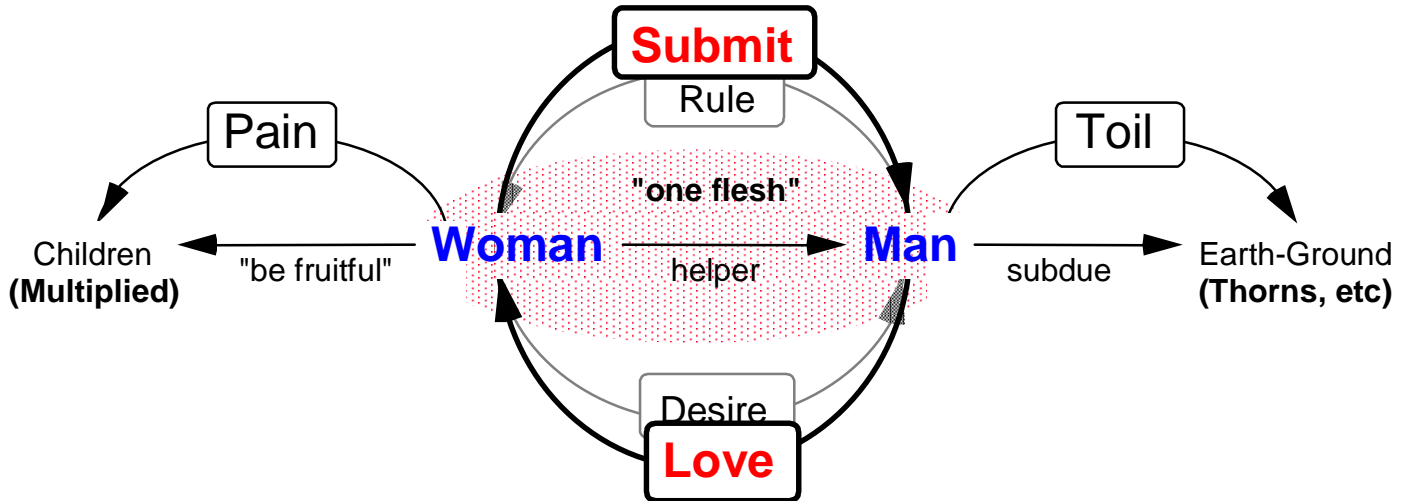


People
Security
Affection
Cooperation
Feeling
Intuition

Differences
in
Emphasis
and
Abilities

Things
Achievement
Ego
Competition
Facts
Logic

The Ideal Marriage Relationship



Needs of the Woman Fulfilled

Spiritual

- Provided with Spiritual Leadership (Eph 5:24; I Tim 2:12,13)

Emotional

- Loved, Desired, Sense of Belonging (Eph 5:25,28,29; SoS 7:10)
- Respected, Honored (I Pet 3:7; SoS 7:10)
- Protected from Fear (SoS 4:7,8; I Pet 3:6)
- Given an Object of Affection (SoS 8:1,2)

Physical

- Sexual Desires Satisfied (I Cor 7:3-5)
- Protected, Provided for (I Tim 5:8)

Needs of the Man Fulfilled

Spiritual

- Provided with Spiritual Companionship (I Pet 3:7)

Emotional

- Ego, and Sense of Worth Bolstered (I Pet 3:6 and see Prov 20:29)
- Respect of Others Fostered (Prov 12:4; 31:23)
- Comforted in Insecurity (Gen 24:67)
- Companionship/Contentment (SoS 8:10)

Physical

- Sexual Desires Satisfied (I Cor 7:3-5; Prov 5:15-19)
- Food, Clothing, Provisions (Prov 31:13-15)

The Consequences of the Fall are Addressed-- in God's Way:

Two ways in which "Sin does not reign in our mortal bodies" (Rom 5:21; 6:12)

1. The guilt of sin before God is removed through the sacrifice of Jesus.
2. We reduce the consequences of sin in this fallen world by following God's plans and adopting the character of His Son. (Rom 8:20-23; I Jno 3:2,3)

God's Design of the Man-Woman Union

Eph 5:28-33 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself...

After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church-- for we are members of his body.

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become **one flesh**." ...

However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Key Point: Love and Sacrifice

Paul,
to the
Ephesians

In the Beginning...

Gen. 2:24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become **one flesh**.

Jesus,
to the
Jews

Matt. 19:4-6 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator `made them male and female,'

and said, `For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become **one flesh**'?"

So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

Key Point: Permanent, Not to be Broken

Paul,
to the
Corinthians

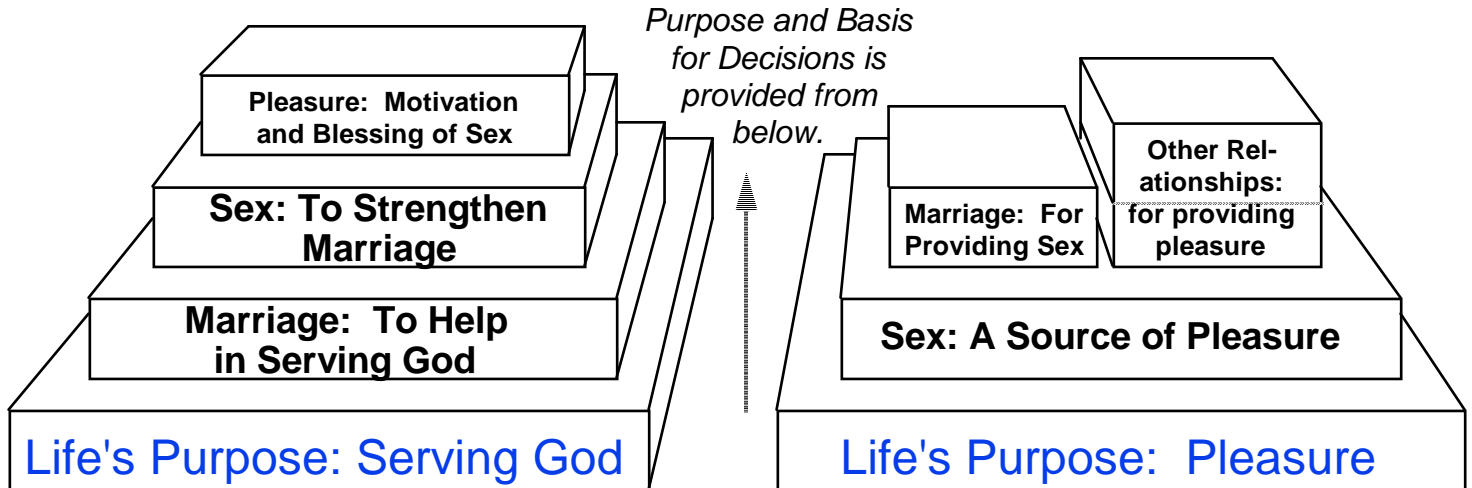
1Cor. 6:15-17 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never!

Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "**The two will become one flesh**."

But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

Key Point: Improper Union Defiles (i.e. An Agreement in Purpose and Action).

Contrasting Organization of the Man-Woman Relationship in Different Value Systems



- Ultimate values determined by a higher, more stable standard than our ever-changing desires.
- Provides a reason for life and relationships apart from the ability to achieve pleasure.
- Provides a permanence to marriage apart from the success of the physical relationship.
- Envelopes the most sensitive and powerful influences on our physical and emotional well-being within the protection of stable convictions.

- No values or standards for one's behavior apart from the moment's expected "feelings".
- Life's meaning is as fragile as one's ability to succeed at pleasure-seeking.
- Marriage is only as permanent as the pleasures that motivated its formation. Provides no motive for unrewarded care for spouse.
- Leaves the deep emotional and physical effects of sexual intercourse unprotected by any sense of permanence or commitment.

• ***There is a Strong Basis to Verify the Worth of this Approach:***

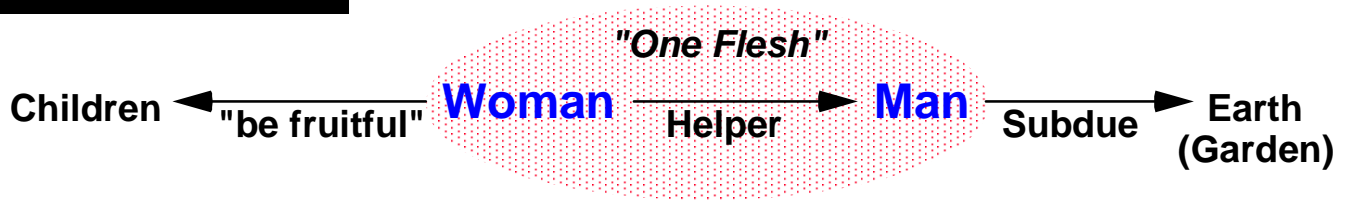
- It has been the norm in most successful societies in history.
- It is taught as morally right in the Bible.

• ***No Basis Exists to Verify The Worth of this Approach:***

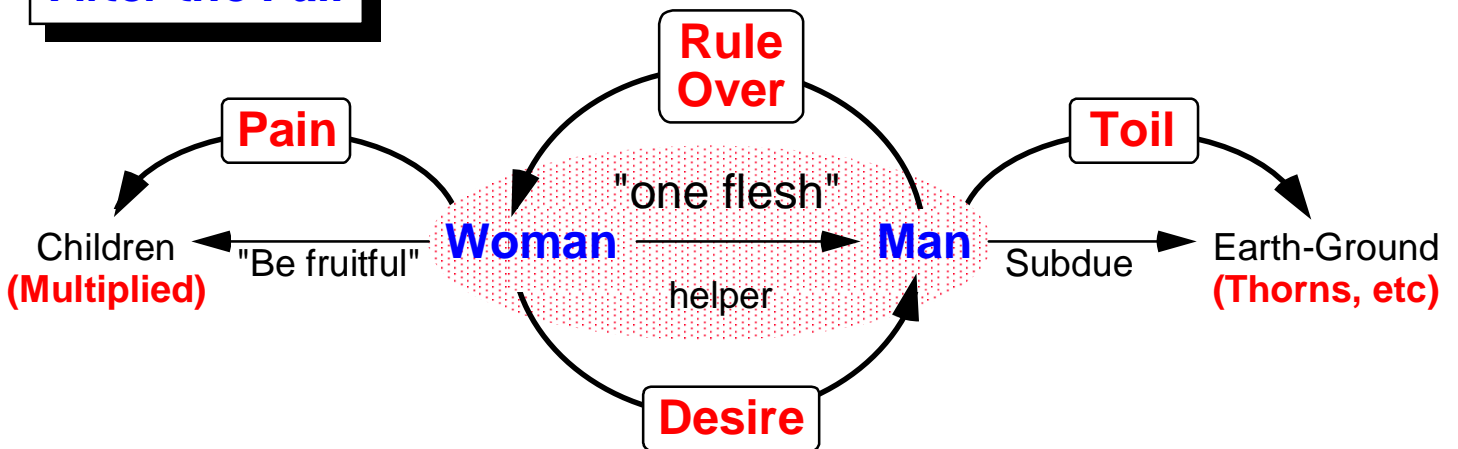
- Its Long Term Effect on Society is not known.
- Its Effect on the Individual is not known.

Family Relationships Before & After the Fall

Before the Fall



After the Fall



Perfected in Christ

