

Patriarchs' Journal™

Dedicated to the restoration, support and encouragement of biblical family structure.

Volume 2
Issue 13

Early Church and Martin Luther

by — Brian Kelson

Josephus, a first century Roman-Jewish historian, recorded that “it is the ancient practice among us to have many wives at the same time” (*Ant.* 17.2).

Polygyny was common in Jewish life in New Testament times, but the Lord did not speak against it. If it was common, then the Lord would need to make very plain statements prohibiting polygyny if He abolished it. However, the Lord said,

Do not think that I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to destroy but to fulfill.

For truly I say to you, Till the heaven and the earth pass away, not one jot or one tittle shall in any way pass from the Law until all is fulfilled.

Therefore whoever shall relax one of these commandments, the least, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of Heaven. But whoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 5:17-19).

Till heaven and earth pass away, not one jot or tittle will pass from the Law. This includes the laws regarding polygyny.

In Matthew 19 the Lord spoke against divorcing a wife for every cause; but He did not speak against a husband taking another wife, which was permitted under the Law.

History proves that there were Bishops and church members with more than one wife for up to 300 years after the New Testament era closed. Obviously these early believers did not understand the usual passages used against polygyny as modern Christians understand them.

St. Augustine was not anti-polygyny since he claimed it was also as the principle of headship and subordination.

Tertullian opposed polygyny on the grounds that sex within marriage was sinful, and polygyny “supposedly” provided more opportunities to sin. We would not agree with this man regarding his rejection of polygyny; it certainly wasn’t based on Scripture.

Origen, it is reported, castrated himself so he could not have sex with his wife.

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Polygyny was finally rejected in the late 5th Century not on any biblical basis, but on the “norms” of Roman culture and the arguments of the austere, monastic and ascetic early church “fathers.”

Martin Luther said,

I confess that I cannot forbid a person to marry several wives, for it does not contradict the Scripture. If a man wishes to marry more than one wife he should be asked whether he is satisfied in his conscience that he may do so in accordance with the word of God. In such a case the civil authority has nothing to do in the matter (*De Wette* II, 459, pp. 329-330).

Martin Luther advised Philip of Hesse to keep his second marriage quiet. Martin Luther did not condemn Philip for it because Luther knew of the polygynous families blessed by God in the Old Testament. Obviously Luther did not understand any New

Testament passage as a cancellation of polygyny.

Martin Luther also advised King Henry 8th to take Mary Queen of Scots as his second wife.

Did you know John and Charles Wesley's sister Martha married the polygamist evangelist Wesley Hall?

Polygamy is a sanctified marriage, and believers through the past have acknowledged this and many now live the lifestyle. **B**

(edited)



Brian is an author and Bible teacher. His website is www.biblepolygamy.com

Patriarchs' JournalTM

Volume 2, No. 13 – January, 2015

Patriarchs' Journal is a periodical dedicated to the definition, defense, support and encouragement of the God-ordained family as an autonomous, sovereign entity that existed before civil governments and religious organizations, and is independent of their approval and direction.

Patriarchs' Journal is <i>NOT</i> about ...	Patriarchs' Journal <i>IS</i> about ...
Celestial Marriage	Biblical Marriage
Child Brides	Genuine Love
Underage Marriage	Honoring God
Mormonism	Providing for Women & Children
Arranged Marriage	Self-Sacrificial Living
Dishonesty	Stewardship & Care
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We seek to bring as many voices from as many backgrounds as possible to this periodical. Many are scripturally based; others find their context in the social, legal, historical and scientific arenas. Because of the diversity, you will likely not agree with everything you read. Frankly, we do not ask that of you. In fact, at times our editorial staff does not agree with everything placed within these columns. We are simply presenting things that, we trust, will be supportive and edifying in their overall scope.

We will attempt to take an honest, fresh look at the subject of the family from a Biblical perspective, and to recover truth that has too long remained hidden under the veils of traditionalism, prejudice, misunderstanding, and fear (Mark 7:7, 13). Readers are encouraged to be as the Bereans and search the Scriptures (Acts 17:10-11; I Thessalonians 5:21). This publication is not intended to provide personal or legal advice.

Minor changes to punctuation and grammar may have been made to articles for better reading.

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I Was Wrong

by — B.A. Berean

It seems that, in my own experience, three of the most difficult words to utter are, “I was wrong.”

None of us like to admit when we have been in error, especially if we have been very vocal in expressing what we thought we were right about.

Well, here I am, confessing to you ... I was wrong all of those times I beat my fist on the pulpit and boldly made statements about the “sin of polygamy.”

Realizing that I was wrong about that particular issue provokes me all the more! What else might I be wrong about? What other convictions might I have that are simply the traditions of men, rather than the truth of God’s Word? As a pastor, how many people have I led off track in one way or another by not truly being diligent in my studies?

FEAR OF GOD, OR FEAR OF MAN?

If you are a Christian, you are responsible for knowing why you believe what you believe. If you are a pastor or teacher, you are responsible not only to know why you believe what you believe, but also why you teach what you teach.

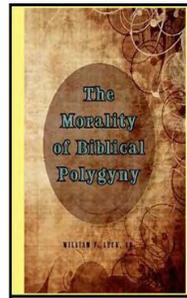
If you discover that what the Bible really teaches doesn’t line up with your denominational or traditional stance, what do you do? Do you boldly take a stand on the truth for the sake of truth? Or do you keep quiet and avoid the issues for the sake of acceptance by others and job security?

As I look at Scripture, I do not see even one exhortation to the man or woman of God that they should seek to be popular or politically correct. Nor do I find an exhortation that we should commit to defending tradition for the sake of tradition or for the sake of a steady pay check.

Instead, I see Jesus encouraging us simply to “*seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,*” trust-

ing that He will take care of us and meet all of our needs. Job security is the last thing that a pastor or teacher should worry about (I must confess that’s easier said than done).

In the end, you won’t stand before your congregation to give an account; but you *will* stand before God. Are you teaching what you honestly believe to be the truth? Or are you simply repeating what you’ve heard from other pastors, or things you’ve read in commentaries, all the while crossing your fingers hoping that it’s true?



The Morality of Biblical Polygyny

by — William F. Luck, Sr.

28 pages, PB. \$5

This is an amazing, courageous, contemporary work. William Luck is the son of Moody Bible Institute’s Dr. G. Coleman Luck, Sr, Chairman of the Department of Theology, and a capable biblical scholar in his own right.

“God didn’t ask me my opinion about the issue. He expected me to represent His. I’ve tried. If you can prove I’m mistaken, I’ll be the first to thank you. But I’m not holding my breath in the meanwhile.” – the Author, from the Introduction

“To date [over twenty years after its original publication], I find the arguments ‘pro’ quite superior to those ‘con.’” – the Author, from the Conclusion

- The Background
- Laws That Imply the Moral Propriety of Polygyny
- Passages That Appear To Prohibit Polygyny
- The Association of Polygyny with Other Evils
- Alleged Prohibitions of Polygyny
- The Implications of “Adultery” in the “Vice Lists”
- Questions Concerning the Possibility of Moral Polygyny

(see order form on back page)

BUSTED BY THE TRADITION POLICE!

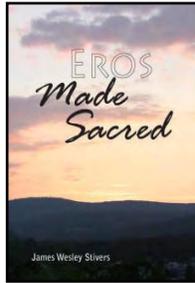
In late 2004, as I was teaching from the Old Testament one Sunday morning, we came across a passage where God was regulating the practice of polygamy.

I simply pointed out that to our American ears, the thought of polygamy rubs us the wrong way. Yet we needed to realize that God never calls it sin. I pointed out that if God considered it sin, He would have prohibited it rather than regulating it. Then I shared a few of the passages.

All in all, I spent only a few minutes on the subject, keeping it in the context of missions, reaching out to other cultures, and simply being honest with what the Bible really has to say.

Within 48 hours, I received a telephone call from one of the higher-ups in my former denomination, giving me a “loving rebuke” and encouraging me not to teach that sort of thing, because “*the Scriptures clearly teach that polygamy is sin.*”

I asked this person to explain to me where Scripture stated that it was sin, but he was unable to.



Eros Made Sacred: or
The Biblical Case Made for Polygamy
 by — James Wesley Stivers
 (originally published in 1991)
 74 pages, PB. \$13

This book presents a clear biblical justification for polygamous marriage as sanctioned by the Holy Scriptures. The issue of polygamy is used to contrast current moral biases with those found in the Bible. First published more than 15 years ago, this thoughtful work has gone unrefuted. Provocative, instructional, challenging, edifying. The book chapters are:

- Polygamy: A Biblical Custom
- Objections Answered; In Favor of Polygamy
- The Ministry of the Patriarch
- Polygamy as a Tool of Christian Dominion
- Feminism, Monogamy and Witchcraft

(see order form on back page)

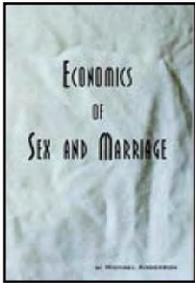
By God’s grace, the tone of the conversation remained light and concluded with this person saying, “*Well, I just wanted to make sure you hadn’t turned Mormon on us; and that you didn’t have three wives.*”

I told him that I didn’t have three wives, was not converting to Mormonism, and that I was fully committed to teaching the Scriptures. That was the end of the conversation.

After hanging up the phone my first thought was, “Was Gideon a Mormon? What about David?”

My second thought was, “What if I did have three wives? Would that make me unrighteous in God’s eyes? Would that make me a Mormon?” Obviously, the answer to those questions is, NO.

I truly love the brother who called me on the phone that day. God has used him many times in the past to teach me some wonderful things about the Bible, but when it comes to this particular topic (which he spoke to me about with much conviction), he obviously has never taken the time to see what the Bible



Economics of Sex and Marriage
 by — Michael Anderson
 86 pages, PB

We can look all around us and observe many things about human behavior regarding sexuality and marriage.

Using the logical deductive approach of the Austrian economists, this book attempts to provide a unified theory explaining some of the major phenomena of human mating relationships. The seemingly “pro-polygamy” conclusions presented here are bound to make this work controversial, but this was certainly not the author’s intent. These conclusions inescapably follow when the basic principles of economics are applied to human sexual behavior.

(discontinued)

Needless to say, the phone call really shook me up. It also provoked me to move forward and write about this subject. That way, at the very least, those who had gotten wind of the “strange teachings” coming out of our fellowship about polygamy (just a few minutes’ worth of teaching from the pulpit by the way) would know where I was coming from in regard to this topic.

As I type these words, (doing a fifth rewrite of this book) over six years have passed. We have already had another presidential election, and several states have passed propositions defining marriage as “one man and one woman.” “Bible-believing” Christians were the driving force behind those propositions.

At this point in time (October 2010), I am typing these words as a challenge to some of my brothers in ministry who are fond of very loudly proclaiming that the only acceptable marriage in God’s eyes is “one man and one woman.” I want them to take an honest look at the Scriptures from cover to cover and to be honest about what they find.

My desire is not to start a polygamy movement in America. My desire is simply to encourage all of us as believers to begin to be honest with what we find when we do our best to “rightly divide the Word.”

HOWEVER ... IT IS A REAL ISSUE

Several years ago, I prayed and asked the LORD to confirm to me whether or not this particular issue was really all that important when it comes to reaching the world with the Gospel.

He gave me that confirmation early in 2005 (it’s taken me five years to work up the courage to speak up) when we had a guest speaker at our fellowship.

He is a wonderful man of God who leads a pastoral training mission organization in Sudan. After giving a very powerful presentation at our Sunday morning services about the training they are providing to Sudanese men, he approached me about coming to Sudan to spend two weeks teaching the Bible.



Bible Polygamy

Biblepolygamy.com features the straightforward teaching ministry of Brian Kelson. Here is a sampling of many topics found:

- Why teach the truth of Polygamy?
- Why is truth suppressed?
- Polygamist men and women in the Bible
- Early church and Martin Luther
- By the power vested in me?
- Fear & Hypocrisy

When the apostle Paul wrote to the Galatians he had been painted in a negative light by those opposing him. His apostleship had been put in question, his gospel had been ridiculed and his person had been defamed.

Paul’s vigorous appeal to his friends was ultimately ignored and in his last letter to Timothy we read that “all in Asia had turned away from him.” ... This very Paul warned that in the last days, sound doctrine would not be endured and Christians would ever learn but never acknowledge the truth.

Many attempts will be made to discolor the truth of polygamy, but this site appeals to all readers to examine the Word of God against popular theology.

In the course of our conversation, he mentioned that one of the most difficult things they have to deal with is teaching Sudanese men that polygamy is sin and absolutely unacceptable in the life of any believer.

I cannot quote him exactly, but he said something along the lines of, “*We have to spend two full weeks dealing just with the issue of polygamy. It’s very difficult, because we have to convince these guys that their traditions are in direct conflict with the Word of God. They have been practicing that lifestyle for thousands of years. It’s ingrained into their culture, but they need to know that if any tradition is in conflict with the Scriptures, we must always choose to set aside those traditions for the sake of the truth of God’s Word.*”

When I heard him say these things, I wondered if he had ever seriously and honestly taken a look at what the Bible really has to say about the topic; or if he was simply sticking to our "American/Roman" traditional view and trying to find Scriptures here and there to support it.

I also wondered how these Sudanese men would respond if they ever began to search the Scriptures for themselves.

One of these days, they probably will. At that point, what will be their response to the American Christians who pushed them into abandoning their wives? What will the response of those former wives be?

Then something else struck me, and it really hurt my heart. I wondered how many people have been alienated from the LORD due to attempting to push "Traditional American Values," rather than simply teaching "biblical values" (summed up by Jesus as *love God and love your neighbor as yourself*).

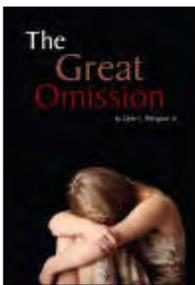
How would you respond to being told that you needed to "put away all but one of your wives" before you could be saved or serve the LORD?

If you were one of the wives, and your survival depended on that family structure, how would you feel about being forced into being a single parent in a land with no welfare programs and not enough men to go around?

If you were a child, how would you feel about having your family split apart? How would you feel when you eventually found out that the pain you went through was totally unnecessary? What would your attitude be toward those who claimed to be speaking for God? **H**

An excerpt taken from B.A. Berean's excellent book *Why Do You Believe That?* (see ad on this page).

The Great Omission: Christendom's Abandonment of the Biblical Family



by — Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

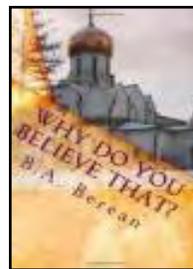
204 pages, PB. \$15

This book presents twenty years of study, taking a candid look at the issue of multiple wives in Scripture and society. The book chapters are:

- The Problem: The Sad, Ignored Epidemic
- The Divine Provision
- The Marital Gift
- The Old Testament Scriptural Precedent
- The New Testament Scriptural Precedent
- The Religious System's Destruction of the Biblical Family
- The History of Its Practice
- The Cultural Issue
- The Benefits of Plural Marriage
- Who Is Immoral?

This book also has 14 appendices.

(see order form on back page)



Why Do You Believe That?

by — B.A. Berean.

148 pages, PB

This well written, easy to read book is designed to provoke the reader lovingly to examine why they believe what they believe, while at the same time encouraging and equipping readers to study the Scriptures for themselves. Hold on tight, as aim is taken at a couple of the most sacred cows in the church today: traditional marriage and monogamy. It is done in an effort to help you see that what you've been told the Bible "says" may not actually be what the Bible teaches. Hailed by some advocates of polygamy, plural marriage, polygyny, etc. as the best "under the radar" educational tool available to introduce the masses to Biblical marriage and the options it provides beyond those presented in religious tradition. If you are pro-polygamy, part of the biblical families movement, or simply a truth seeker, you will enjoy reading this insightful book. The Bible study helps presented within these pages are well worth the price of admission. You will want to read it again and again and share it with others.

(discontinued)

Overcoming Jealousy

by – Kute Blackson

Ultimately, jealousy is not about other people. It is about you.

When you experience jealousy, you are forgetting who you really are. Don't get caught up in a game of comparison.

What you are most jealous of in another person shows you a part of yourself that can be tremendously powerful for you to own. In that moment of jealousy, we contract a feeling that we are not enough. We are focused on who we think we are not. We forget the truth of who we really are inside and our true value. We are focused outside of ourselves for validation.

The more you focus on what you don't have, what's not enough about you, and what others do have, the more jealous you will feel.

Jealousy is a signal that a part of you needs to refocus on you rather than externally. It's a signal that a part of you needs your own love, attention and validation. It's a signal to give yourself the acknowledgment that you seek. So remember: *There will never be another like you.*

In fact, you are so unique that you have no competition. As you embrace your own uniqueness, the more self-assured and at peace you will feel within; the more you will

be able to embrace and celebrate the same in others.

Dare to own your uniqueness!

When you remember who you are and own your uniqueness, jealousy falls away.

There is nothing humble about not living your purpose and expressing your deepest gifts. There is nothing humble about seeing someone else's beauty but not your own. Jealousy is actually based on a misperception of who you really are.

Embrace jealousy, and then let it go!

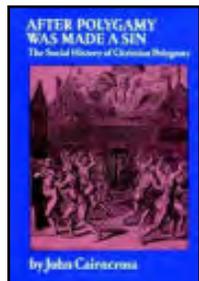
Own your true uniqueness. 

(edited and abridged)

Positively Positive



Kute is a motivational speaker. The son of a minister, he was born in Ghana, West Africa, the son of a Japanese mother and Ghanaian father, and raised in London.



After Polygamy Was Made a Sin

The Social History of Christian Polygamy

by — John Cairncross

260 pp., PB. \$30

Cairncross contends in this fascinating historical analysis that it was when the Church became centered in Rome that "polygamy" became a "sin." Based on rigorous research he demonstrates however that there is a strong underground polygamous Christian tradition, including support from such prominent figures as Milton, Newton, Spinoza and others.

(see order form on back page)



Man and Woman in Biblical Law

by — Tom Shipley

268 pages, PB. \$30

The goal of this book is to lay the foundation for the establishment of a truly biblical social order, especially within the community of Bible-believing, Christ-honoring families. The subject matter is patriarchy. The biblical exposition contained herein is devoted to establishing the proposition that it is patriarchy which was and is mandated by God ever since the original creation of man and woman. The scriptural discussion on polygamy here serves as a supporting role to the fundamental proposition of God-ordained and mandated patriarchy.

(see order form on back page)

Polygyny Is Morally Right

by – Chijioke Ishiusah (on Nairaland)

Polygyny is morally right, as it was a product of sound wisdom when society faced a terrible imbalance in the gender ratio. Who would like to see his sister or daughter unmarried for life or to be a prey to casual marriage practitioners, hence having only the option to sniff the married life for a while and then return to permanent loneliness? The greedy modern man likes it this way.

The crowd of women who have once tasted marriage between one month and seven years is swelling by the day. They will have to live the rest of their lives without a husband, while the men endlessly taste the married life with one prey after the other, most of them ending as bed-mates. One once told me that he had tasted up to eighty women. Mere tasting of the honey is now the game. Who cares for a permanent deal? Who is victimized here?

Now, what I am saying is that polygyny is intellectually fine at any time when a gender ratio imbalance exists; it is not against civilization. In fact opposing it in such a situation is sadism. The only challenge, which monogamy also faces, is having responsible men accepting marriage. Responsible men should not be programmed to hate polygyny, which the current circumstance requires, while irresponsible men take charge of the most precious human institution. Polygyny cannot be for every man in any generation, because marriage is not for heartless or lazy people. **H**

(edited)

South Africa

The regulation of polygamy is prominent in Biblical law; thus, we may interpret that fact as indicative of its pervasiveness as a social custom.

James Wesley Stivers
Eros Made Sacred

Patriarch Publishing House™, 2007, p. 39

The Apprenticeship of Marriage

by – Paul E. Billheimer

The stresses of marriage are designed to produce brokenness, to wean one from self-centeredness, and to produce the graces of sacrificial love and gentleness.

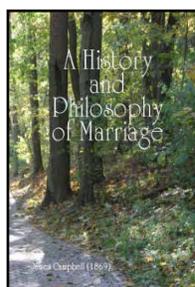
Because so few people understand the nature and purpose of marriage, when stresses and strains develop they are tempted to feel that they have made a mistake and perhaps have married the wrong person. The next step is to seek a way of escape by one means or another.

Life and marriage is an apprenticeship for the practice of agape love in preparation for rulership where the law of love is supreme. **H**

Don't Waste Your Sorrows



Billheimer (1897-1984) began a tent ministry in Anderson, Indiana, in 1936 that grew to include a Bible institute, a Christian high school, a Christian day school, and, in 1957, a Christian television station. His other books include *Love Covers*, *Destined for the Throne*, and *Destined for the Cross*.



A History and Philosophy of Marriage:

Polygamy and Monogamy Compared

by — James Campbell
(originally published in 1869)
142 pages, PB. \$20

A reprint of Christian philanthropist James Campbell's classic work, originally published in 1869 in Boston, Massachusetts.

(see order form on insert page)

Healthy Competition

by – James Wesley Stivers

Healthy competition between women is not a bad thing. It nurtures incentive for excellence and progress. Leah and Rachel competed with each other, but together built the house of Israel (Ruth 4:11). Had they been married to different men – say Esau and Jacob – their competition could have become destructive. They experienced despair because their fallen natures wanted their husband exclusively (Genesis 3:16) and did not see God’s providential hand in the arrangement. **H**

The Family Abbey, 2014; footnote 78

If a worldwide count of societies were made, polygyny would prove to be the favored form of marriage.

William F. Kenkel
The Family in Perspective, , 1977, p. 30
University of Kentucky

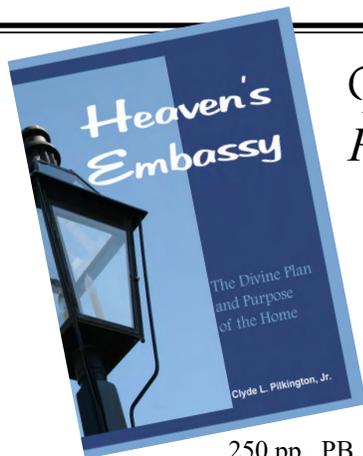
Basic Legal Definitions

by – Jonathan Turley

Many people are confusing bigamy with polygamy. **Bigamy is having multiple marriage licenses.** That’s a crime that is committed almost exclusively by people who hold themselves as monogamists. It is not a crime that is generally committed by polygamists who traditionally have one marriage license and the rest are spiritual marriages. So what Utah now says is that anybody, regardless of the structure of your family, with more than one license can be prosecuted. We have no problem with that. **Polygamy is legal.** ... It is now legal to be plural in a family. **Polygamy does not mean having multiple marriage licenses: it means having a plural family.”** **H**

(edited and abridged)

On Point with Tom Ashbrook
December 23, 2013



Heaven’s Embassy – The Divine Plan & Purpose of the Home

by – Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it (Psalm 127:1).

This book represents many years of work. The author believes that it is one of the most important books that he will ever be privileged to write, simply because it is about one of the most vital scriptural subjects that could ever be addressed.

The home is central to all of God’s dealings with man throughout the course of time. It is His Divine “institution” and “organization” on the earth; and for the believer, it is the *Embassy of Heaven*. An embassy is “**the residence or office of an ambassador.**” Since the believer is an ambassador of the Lord Jesus Christ (II Corinthians 5:14-21), his home is thus the *Divine Embassy* of heavenly ministry.

Pauline ministry is centered in the homes of believers. This is even the true sphere of the Body of Christ; for this reason our apostle speaks of “*church in thy house.*” This book doesn’t focus upon the *external* specifics of the ministry of *Heaven’s Embassy* (such as *hospitality*); that will be saved for another volume. Instead, it looks at the inner-workings of the *Embassy* itself, focusing upon its very nature and *internal* purpose and function.

(see order form on back page)

THE FELLOWSHIP INN

At
Pilkington
Abbey

The Fellowship Inn is presently comprised of three houses built in 1895, located in Paint Borough adjacent to Windber, PA. These structures provide ample space for dedicated guest lodging. The Fellowship Inn is not a business venture, but the hospitality ministry extension of Pilkington Abbey; there are, therefore, no guest charges.

A large part of the Pilkington family passion has always been hospitality. Father has placed this in their makeup. The website www.FellowshipInn.com is an online calendar that will assist you in coming for a visit. It will allow you to see our family activities and who's scheduled to visit us. Hopefully this will make it easier for you to make your plans

to come, and let you know how serious we are about having you visit us.

“If you need fellowship, or sound teaching, or counseling, or you just plain need a break from life and want to come to a place of palpable peace and lovely love for a day, or a weekend, or a week, come here. It's free. Just bring yourself, as you are. Go to the website and make a reservation. Find out when we're all going to be here, and come here and taste for yourself what God has produced in the middle of nowhere.” – Martin Zender

The Wives of Moses

by — Marvin George

Moses had at least *three* wives. Everyone seems to know about Zipporah and the Ethiopian wife, even though most people seem to think they are one and the same woman (because they don't want to believe that it is God's plan for a man to have more than one wife).

In Judges 4:11, we read,

Now Heber the Kenite, of the children of Hobab the father-in-law of Moses ...

Apparently, Moses had a third wife who was not a Midianite like Zipporah, nor was she an Ethiopian like Moses' second-mentioned wife. She was a Kenite.

If the chronology in Ussher's *Annals of the World* is accurate, Zipporah was very much alive two months before the Ethiopian wife is mentioned. That makes it very dif-

ficult for the anti-biblical-marriage crowd to say that Zipporah died before Moses married the Ethiopian woman!

(edited)



Marvin lives in Colorado Springs, CO. A former Church of God minister (denominational HQ in Cleveland, TN), he was fired from his position as an Assistant Pastor, followed by a defrocking and excommunication for refusing to recant the statement, “The Bible does not say it is a sin for a man to have more than one wife.”

Anti-polygamy exposes the REAL hypocrites. It proves that such liberals do NOT really believe in “tolerance” (as they pretend), and it proves that such conservatives do NOT really believe in “limited government” (as they pretend).

Mark Henkel
National Polygamy Advocate

Mistaken Monogamy

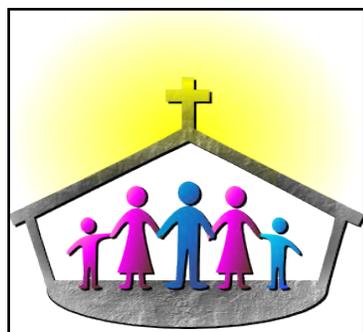
by – George Lamsa

The highly respected Aramaic scholar, George Lamsa, has noted in his commentaries that men may be mistaken for being monogamous because they may have only one wife, yet many concubines. The wife is mentioned; frequently, the concubines are not. **H**

Old Testament Light, Harper & Row, 1968)

Contrary to church teaching and bold statements that the New Testament corrects polygamy, and makes monogamy the only possibility for humanity, there is not one statement in all the New Testament that says this.

Philo Thelos
Divine Sex: Liberating Sex from Religious Tradition
Trafford Publications, 2006, p. 69



Biblical Families

Biblical Families is a ministry dedicated to encouraging and strengthening Biblical marriages, including, but certainly

www.BiblicalFamilies.org

not limited to, plural marriage. We see plural marriage as a good, and caring, option for believers – ensuring that no one need be left without a family.

Biblical Families places a strong emphasis on fellowship and supporting each other, as per the New Testament, and organizes national retreats and regional meetings.

Our website includes many helpful resources:

- Online Articles
- Discussion Boards
- Newsletters
- Retreat Information
- Local contacts
- Links to other helpful resources

Lived and Loved Together

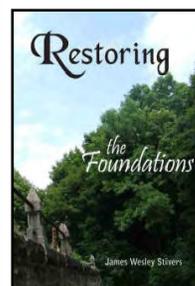
We have lived and loved together
Through many changing years;
We have shared each other's gladness,
And wept each other's tears.

I have known ne'er a sorrow
That was long unsoothed by thee.
For thy smiles can make a summer
Where darkness else would be.

— Charles Jefferys
Creatures Great and Small

It's amazing how proud Christendom is of their "Judeo-Christian" roots, *i.e.*, established on the foundation of "the law" of the Old Testament. Yet when it comes to Polygamy, how easy it is for them to explain away those same Old Testament precepts because it doesn't match their current religious morality.

André Sneidar
Managing Editor, *Patriarch's Journal*



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Plural Marriage....

IN THE NEWS

Women's Group Applauds New Kenya Law Legalizing Polygamy

(CNN) — A new law that went into effect in Kenya this week makes it legal for a man to marry as many women as he wants. And a leading women's group is applauding it.

President Uhuru Kenyatta signed the polygamy measure into law Tuesday, formally recognizing what has long been a cultural practice in the nation.

"We are happy with the law because finally all marriages are being treated equally." — Christine Ochieng, executive director of *Federation of Women Lawyers*.

"Marriage is the voluntary union of a man and a woman whether in a monogamous or polygamous union," Kenyatta said in a statement.

Polygamy already is a common fixture among many cultures in Kenya and in some other African countries. The bill, the group said, is long overdue because polygamous unions were previously not regarded as equal to regular marriages. **H**

Polygamy: Historically the Most Traditional Form of Marriage

Huffington Post (AP) — A federal judge cites polygamy as historically "the most traditional form of marriage." She thinks Wisconsin state officials have a thing or two to learn about the history of marriage as a social institution. In defending their same-sex marriage ban, state officials claimed that "virtually all cultures through time" have recognized marriage "as the union of an opposite-sex couple" (*i.e.*, the popular "one man-one woman" argument).

But as U.S. District Judge Barbara Crabb wrote in her 88-page ruling on June 6, 2014, that's simply not true.

"As an initial matter, defendants and amici have overstated their argument. Throughout history, the most 'traditional' form of marriage has not been between one man and one woman, but between one man and multiple women, which presumably is not a tradition that defendants and amici would like to continue," Crabb wrote in her opinion. **H**



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