



SESSION SEVEN, PART A

God's Second Relationship Rule: The Roles of the Husband and Wife

In our consideration of God's plan in building a marriage after His blueprint, we're at the point of relationship. I quoted from an authority who is not a Christian who said, "One of the problems is that, having chosen a right partner, we do not work out relationship laws that are equitable and durable." You don't *have* to work out the laws of relationship; God has already laid them down for us.

Now here's where we are. This (two-part tool) is my feeble illustration of God's *great* truth. He wants us to be one. That is a relationship. The first law of relationship is this; look: that man is *completely* in the hand of God. This woman is *completely* in the hand of God. And God says, "You man, not because there's anything in you, but because I have *delegated* it to you, I want *you* to be the manager. And you woman, not because you are inferior and I am not *making* you inferior—I'm not subordinating you—but in order that we might be one, I want you for My sake, and for the work's sake, I want you to be in subjection to him." *That* is the biblical pattern of relationship. Law number one: There must be good management, or you'll never be one. And so this couple has settled that, and now they are one.

And then you come to the second law of relationship. And I want to deal with it in two sessions. So this couple says, "Isn't it wonderful? And boy, we know of oneness we never dreamed possible. And it's *beautiful!* It is not *hurting!* It's not *exalting!* one. It's equitable and durable." Then they say to one another, "You know, it looks like God has called us to cut; let's cut." And so they begin to cut. And then the husband says, "Honey, I think it would probably be good if you cut the *grass* and I'll cut the *wheat*." "Oh, do you really think that's the way it ought to be?" "Yeah." "Okay." So she goes out and cuts the grass, and he goes out and cuts the wheat. And the *grass* is cut, and the *wheat* is cut—but the marriage is destroyed.

Relationship law number two. Do you know what it is? It is what is called the role of husband and wife. This is the issue of the Women's Liberation Movement. It is the *role* issue. Now many people—many have told me—"Well I thought the role of the husband was to be the *head*." Now, some people put it all together. That's alright if you want to do it that way, but I charge you: They are separate issues. The role issue is not *management*. The *role* of the husband, the *role* of a wife, it's awfully confused in our society. When they talk about the role, and role reversal, and all of this *confusion*, and what to do with your children as they come up, and you try to train them in certain *roles*, I don't think you can handle this as you ought to if you don't understand what the issue is.

The issue as I see it—of role—is constituted out of three sub-issues. I'll get them before you and you'll find it in every society on the face of the earth. You'll go out in the jungles of untouched Indians out in Peru or Bolivia or Brazil—wherever you find these, quote, what we used to call "uncivilized" Indians. They'll have this. And sometimes it's so simple, then you can understand it. Then you come back to this *complicated* society and culture of ours and you hardly realize what's happening. The first part of the issue is this: In this society—I don't care whether it is the United States or the Indians of Peru—they have babies, right? There's a little baby; he's born, and the first question they always ask in every society, what's the first question? "Is it a boy or girl?" Why do they ask that? Now here is the first part of this issue. Here is a little baby, and he's born. And you pick him up! Can you tell whether he's a boy or a girl? How do you tell? Wait a minute, don't—(laughter)! How do you tell? My friend, that's not the *only* way you can tell. Do you realize everything *about* him—? An anthropologist who understands the *skeleton*, he can tell from the bones if the *skeleton* is different. The supra-

orbital *ridge* is different. The sutures of the *skull* are different. Now, don't start feeling around (laughter), but there are all *kinds* of differences.

But the big thing is, and this is what has been publicized recently, it's in the *chromosomes*! It's wrapped up in there, and God has locked it up in there, and you don't touch it! As one biologist says, "In every cell of your body you're either male or female." It's not just the reproductive organs. God has created them what? Male and female—and *He means business*. It is not just a little passing thing. I don't know anything about it, but I know it's a *wonder*—the way those chromosomes control *all* that takes place. It's wrapped up; it's locked up. You can't touch it. Do men act different than women? Yes or no? How much of that is locked up in the *genes*? If it is locked up in the genes, you don't touch it. God has made it that way. No environmental force will change it. No culture will affect it if it is *locked up* in the genetic build of that person. And here's the first question: How much of this difference between men and women is innate? By innate, I mean it's *inherited*, it is genetically determined. It is not determined by what happens to this child, what you train him to do. God has locked it up in the genes. How *much* is locked up there? That's your first question.

Second issue is this. Every society will do this. When this little girl starts her journey through life, they will look at her and say, "Oh, so your chromosomes say you're a girl, huh? Okay. You know what we'll do to you? We will *tell* you what it means to be a woman." And they'll take a little boy and they will bring him along and say, "Now *this* is what it means to be a *man*." Or, in our terms, what does it mean to be masculine?

A former missionary was telling us about some Indians down in Peru and he said, "*This* is what it means to be man!" If you wanted to be a real man among these Indians, do you know what you had to do? You had to climb one of those big trees in the jungle and at the top of the tree there was a *big* hornet's nest, and these are not the hornet nests you see around Charlotte. *These are jungle hornets!* And you climb up that tree and you take a stick, and without any clothes on you stand there and *beat* that thing until the hornets come out and sting you all over. *And you endure it.* And if you can take it, you're a man! Do you know what it means to be a man? What does it mean to be a woman? What does it mean to be *feminine*? What does it mean to be *masculine*? That's the second issue.

Now we'll take the third step. Anthropologically speaking, *role proper* is this: There are certain jobs that must be done by any institutional unit. Somebody has to get the food. Somebody has to *prepare* the food. Somebody has to preserve it. Somebody has to take care of the children. Somebody has to build the house. Somebody has to *clean* the house. Somebody has to fight off the enemy. Somebody has to *train* the children. Somebody has to carry out the garbage. Somebody has to do this, somebody has to do this, somebody has to do this. This is the role issue proper! Every society will split it and say, "We want the *men* to do this, and to do this, and to do this, and this; that is their *role*." And then they say, "Alright, you women, you do this, you do this, you do this." It's amazing! As you go from culture to culture they will assign the roles differently.

I never will forget when I left the concrete of Charlotte, North Carolina, and went *way* down in the Deep South, and back into the rural areas. And I saw for the first time in my life *a woman plowing behind a plow*. "Man, women don't do—. Women don't do that!" Down there they did. Then I went to Haiti. And you know what you see? Boy, you wouldn't believe it. You know what the women do? Do you know what the men do? The men do things you would say in America, "I wouldn't be caught dead doing." And you go to other cultures and they will just assign these jobs differently. *That* is role.

I hope you see that this is an *entirely* different issue than the *management* issue. This has to do with the innate differences between boys and girls—what it means to be a man and a woman, and then as a man, "You ought to do this." Boy, I remember when I was coming up, men didn't wash dishes. My daddy wouldn't any more be caught washing a dish than he would be caught—. Why, men don't wash dishes! That's what women do, right? Because it's built into the genes (laughter)! This is the issue of role, and (points to blackboard) it starts with this, it comes to this and then goes to this.

Now for a while sit tight. *Fasten thy seatbelts*. I want to share with you my understanding of what your American culture has done on these three issues. Then, in the second session I want to get you into the

Scriptures and show you *God's* way of dealing with this thing. As we look at what American culture has done with this, and with this, and with this—. And I'll tell you again, it is ripping marriages right and left. It is one of the strongest storms that's *beating* on the house of the marriage relationships in America. And you men and you women, you'd better understand it. You'd better get ready for what's going to happen to your children, if you cannot give them an answer.

Alright, I'll start with the first issue. What has the American society understood and taught as to the innate differences between men and women? "You see men ought to act different than women. They even think different. They, I mean they—" How much of that is innate? In the past the American culture has taught consistently that it is *all* built in. "Why sure! He's a boy, and when he gets to be a man he'll *be* what men are. It's *all* built in." That has been our past.

With the coming of the Women's Liberation Movement you've got another extreme, and you know what they say? That the only thing that is *innate* is the reproductive operation. This is what you are breathing today—that there are no built-ins except reproduction. And since we're not having children anymore, since it is maybe in the offing, they will make test tube children. Oh may that day never come! Not because I think that will be disturbing my faith, but what it'll do to that child. *Oh what a tragedy.* The extreme is there are no innate differences between men and women. I've tried to search the Scriptures to see what God says about this. It's very complicated. I would like to share in the second session what I have found in Scripture as to these innate differences. If the fact that women *seem* to be more emotional than men—if that is built into the genetics—then my friend, you can't change it; it is there by *God's* creation. That's the issue. I have a sneaking suspicion the truth is somewhere in here (references blackboard). So much for this. . . .

When this little girl comes along, are you aware in your own race that you have come through—as you developed as a human being in your childhood—are you aware that they put any kind of a cultural pressure on her to be a little *girl*? What do you give a little girl for Christmas? Do you ever give her an Erector Set? You give her a what? *A doll.* And what do you talk to her about? "Oh, you got such big, pretty muscles (laughter)!" What do you talk to her about? What do you say to her? "She's so *pretty.*" If she starts climbing a tree what do you tell her? "Girls don't climb *trees.*" And I'm dealing now with a very wonderful, wonderful, *wonderful* girl. And she wanted to climb trees. And her whole self-image was almost destroyed because they all told her, "That is not what little girls do!" Have you ever felt that?

And then, little *boys*! Now you men, what did they tell you? What did they give *you* for Christmas? A little doll? Did any of you men ever want—? Now don't admit it (laughter)! Did any of you men ever want a *doll*? I've run across a couple little boys who wanted a doll. But you know what [the] father says? "Ah, boys don't *play* with dolls. You'll be a—." What? "A *sissy*! And who wants to be a sissy? You'll be a *sissy.*" I had one father and he was very honest— *wonderful* Christian, and he raised this: "Well, if little boys play with dolls, that'll make them to be homosexual." It won't. I don't want to overstate it my friends and I have, just for the sake of emphasis.

One anthropologist has analyzed what it means now in our culture to be a man. Our culture has said if you are a man this is what you must be. And if you are a woman, to be feminine, this is what you must be. Listen to him: To be feminine in our culture is to be passive, to be emotional, to be temperamental, loving, meek, receptive, pliant, soft, weak, clinging. Isn't that beautiful? Did you catch it? That's what it is to be *feminine.* Do you know what it means to be masculine? To be tough, to be competitive, brave, "I'm not afraid of anything, not even a cockroach (laughter)." He's brave. He's calm. Nothing ever upsets him. He's got it all together. He's *strong.* He's dominant. He's logical. Women are not to be logical because they can't think. And if they ever find one who thinks one little logical thought, you say, "She thinks like a man."

Now see, I'm raising *snakes*; I'm not answering. I'm just simply saying *some* of this is innate. I don't know how much. I know some of this is inculturated—I know that. *And oh, what America has done to its men and to its women.* I am deeply concerned with what this does to marriages. It's ripping them.

Now let's get to the bottom line: what men and women do. This is role proper. Here's where the problem is. And this is the reason so many women have problems, so many women are screaming, so many women are hurting. Here's the role issue: Back 100 years ago here's what American culture told its men and women as to what to do. Back a hundred years ago most of them were out on the farm. Now watch the role distribution. And they said to the man, "Now as a farmer, you'll work the *field*, that *big* expanse!" And you know what you did on the field? You plant your cotton and your corn. And you know what they said to the woman? "You work the *garden* nearby the house." And boy, she'd have tomatoes and raspberries and strawberries; and boy, what a garden! He'd take care of the pigs and the cattle. She'd take care of chickens. And she had the best chickens! You know how many eggs she got a day? And so it went.

Do you see what that is? That is a normal, equal, satisfying distribution of the roles. And the marriages hung together. They were all working in the same place. They were doing things. Do you know what he did? He would take his best pig to the fair! And you know what he'd get? He'd get a blue ribbon. And you know what she'd do? Boy, she'd take her prize leghorn. And she would win first prize for her effort. *She'd* win a ribbon and *he'd* win a ribbon. Every culture does it like that except your culture now. I plead with us all to understand it. There has been a radical change in this thing the last 50 years with industrialization.

Now here is what has happened. Here's the man and he's this, and this, and this, and this, and this (points to blackboard). And here's the women. *And that's all they have*. Do you know what the role of the husband now is? Does he work? Sure, he works. You're killing him physically. I say, "You."; I mean our society, our culture. He's running ragged from sun-up to sun-down and sometimes moonlighting on the side. And he's pressed. He's got to keep up. He's got to make more. He's got to climb. *Oh, the awful pressure* of what he's got to do if he's going to climb, if he's going to make it, if he's going to keep up! And he's got to keep going, keep going, making more and more. But that's not the issue.

Do you know what she does? Yeah, you're killing her too. Not physically. You're killing her emotionally. And at that point women are *screaming*. Women are *hurting*. And men ignore it. And the church ignores it. Do you know how they are hurting? When this man goes out and he becomes an engineer and he invents the laser beam, do you know what people say about him? Do you know what you get when you go out and sell real estate and you are the best salesman in your area? Do you know what they say about it? They not only give you a raise in salary, they will give you a plaque and they will give you a week trip to Hawaii.

Now do you know what she does? She mops the floor. She takes care of the house. She takes care of the *children*. Do you know what she gets for it? Now you men, if you're not understanding this, you'd better listen. Do you know what she gets for it? Zilch. "Oh," you say, "well I'll start paying her \$300 a month. All I've got is hers, what else does she want?" That's what the men say. My friend, God has made human beings so they cannot exist like that.

Do you know what they get? They get nothing. I'm not talking about money. I'm talking about this: Of what value to our society is it that you have raised two children? Zilch. Anybody can do that. An untrained nursery care place can do that. That's not worth shooting. Do you know what our society gives to a woman who will take care of a husband, and who will keep a home, and make it a place of refuge for him and support him day after day? We don't even have a Mother's Day for that. And you think that doesn't hurt? You men, you don't know. You switch roles with that woman for two weeks; it'll kill you. *That is not the way God intended*—. That's the way it is. Man is now a *producer*. He'll produce \$50,000 a month—I mean a *year*! He'll produce—. Do you know what she produced? She is no longer a producer. She is a simple consumer.

Now I know you women are driving yourselves wild going to Sears, and going to the A&P, and taking them to the ball park and all that—and you're killing them! But what is hurting women is there is *absolutely* no recognition, no status, no nothing, no appreciation for this which is indispensable. And *this* thing my friend, *that* is the root of the women's liberation. My friend, if you are not aware of it, if you cannot find some answer, we're in trouble.

Just to make it very, very real, and my wife doesn't like for me to do this. You know what I do? I teach at Columbia Bible College by the mercy of God. I can't handle it, I don't know how to handle it because of my miserable personality, but our God has worked through years and touched students' lives and changed them. You know what they do? They come up and tell me how much God has done for them. I've got students all over the world on the mission field, anywhere we want to go. They're begging, "Come to—, come to see us." And they'll just write back, you know, how much God has done for them. And now in their ministry [they say], "I'm still using what you gave me." Boy, I just get this all the time.

Do you know what my wife does? For 37 years she's washed my dirty *shirts*. She's fixed my *meals*. She's kept my *house*. I've never gone to a closet for a clean shirt, but there's one there. Never go home for a meal, but it's right there. And boy, what a cook! She gave herself to those four boys. And you know what people say to her? Zilch. Do you know what they say to her about washing dishes? "Anybody can wash dishes. Ah, but nobody can preach like Hatch!" My friend, that's killing. That's the reason women are hurting. My *wife's* not hurting so don't run up and—(laughter). She settled this long ago. She's found *God's* answer. But those out there haven't.

That is the reason, my friend, so many women now—. See, that's the reason they do it. They're *working*. Why do they go to work? Why, the great thing that is ripping and killing children is the working mothers. And one third of all children under six—one *third* of them in *American* society—their mothers are working. I'm not condemning it. I'm just simply *saying*; I'm asking two questions. *Why* do they work? Do you know what will happen when they go to the office, and they'll type that letter, and do you know what they'll all say? Boy, the boss will commend her. And they'll even commend her for how *beautiful* she is. And the husband has forgotten that *long* ago. They'll at least pay her, give her a check. And boy, it's great.

That's the reason they left home. Taking care of children, taking care of a husband, taking care of a family, taking care of a house is *absolutely worthless* in our society. You know what it does to marriages? I know it's the fault of your culture. I'm not asking you to leave this culture and go out on a desert island somewhere. But I'm telling you this: Do you know what a man is? A man is *logical*. [Is] a woman logical? She can't follow a logical thought! She is emotional. How can these two ever be one? Here's one who can't *emote*, but he can *think*. And here's one who can't *think*, but she can *emote*. Now, I've made it extreme, but do you see what has happened in our culture? What it means to be a man and a woman has been polarized and they've separated over here. Then they get married. How can you live with this woman who is crying all the time? I've had men talk to me. "Man, I hate this woman! Every time she starts crying, I just wilt. *I never cry!*" Not only what you are *to be*, but what you are *to do*. He is working *way* out here and she is working here. He is cutting the wheat. How much do you get for a bushel of wheat? She's cutting the grass. How much do you get for a bushel of grass? [Are] you telling me that doesn't do anything for marriages? That's pulling them apart. It's your culture, but I tell you God is not *shut up* to—. He can come in and invade any culture and do a revolution! That's what a church ought to be, a body of people who are not squeezed into the *mold* of this culture, but are living the ways of God. And I'm going to challenge you in the next hour to look at the Scriptures and see *God's answer to the role relationship*.