

## The School of Biblical Law

### Covenant and Law

#### Lesson Thirty: “The Covenant Model and Commandment Seven, Part 1”

Commandment seven places a boundary around the yoke of service. This commandment answers to the second section of the covenant model, which is hierarchy, and it therefore identifies the co-laborer of the sovereign. Just as God elected to yoke with man and man was forbidden to replace God by spiritual infidelity with an idol, man elects to yoke with woman and neither party may replace the other through acts of infidelity. Commandment seven places a boundary around the institution of marriage and the sexual practices of mankind that would defile the marriage covenant.

Commandments 1-5 (Love God)	Covenant Model	Commandments 6-10 (Love thy neighbor)
No other gods	Transcendence	Do not Kill
No graven images	Hierarchy	Do Not Commit Adultery
Do not take God’s Name in vain	Ethics	
Remember the Sabbath Day	Sanctions	
Honor thy Father and Mother	Continuity	

1. God created the world and offered man a yoke of service when God gave the dominion mandate.

In order for man to be suitable to yoke with God, man was created in the image and likeness of God.

Likeness is a biblical requirement for bearing the yoke. .

- Deut. 11:10: “Thou shalt not plow with an ox and an ass together.
- II Cor. 6:14 – 15: “What fellowship has righteousness with unrighteousness? What communion has light with darkness? And what concord has Christ with Belial? Or, what part has he that believes with an infidel?

For man to yoke with woman, there must be a likeness, which Adam did not find when he named the animals (Gen. 2:20); therefore God created Eve from Adam’s side causing Adam to declare: “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh” (Gen. 2:23).

2. The union between God and man is covenantal as is the union between man and wife.

God made man from the dust of the earth and breathed into man the breath of life.

- Man uses his breath to kiss toward (*Proskueno* – Strong’s #3452, from *pros* #4312 and *kuon* #2965, translated worship).
- Man and woman exchange breath in a kiss, a symbolic act of covenant.

Covenant is the Hebrew word *beriyth* (*berit*) – Strong’s #1285 and means literally to cut.

- God cut covenant with man through the shedding of the blood of a substitute.
- Man and woman cut covenant through the sexual consummation that sheds blood.

3. Spiritual infidelity is analogous to physical infidelity and both bear the term adultery.

- Jer. 3:8-9: And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also. And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks.
- Jer. 5:7: How shall I pardon you for this? Your children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are not gods. When I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses.
- Ezek. 23:37: That they have committed adultery, and blood is in their hands, and with their idols have they committed adultery, and have also caused their sons, whom they bare unto me, to pass for them through the fire, to devour them.

The boundary around marriage is holy or sacrosanct because marriage is God-ordained, God-defined, and God-protected. It may not be assaulted though any sexual acts that are non-covenantal in nature any more than man’s union with God may be assaulted by any worship acts that are non-covenantal in nature. Both acts of adultery carry sanctions.