

Polygamy

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1 Raising an Issue

2 The Problems

- a Definitions
 - i. poly (gamy, gyny, andry, amory)
 - ii marriage
 - iii how is marriage defined?

- b Biblical Examples and Silence
 - i. silent assumption
 - ii examples of what?
 - iii relationship of Testaments
 - iv wives, slaves and concubines

3 Biblical Data

- a Creation narrative
 - i. God's purpose
 - ii sin's impact
 - ii creation's fulfilment

- b Biblical Presuppositions
 - i. laws
 - ii warnings

- c Examples of Polygamy
 - i. patriarchs
 - ii leaders
 - iii kings
 - iv commoners

- d Levirate marriage

4 Biblical Integration

- a Nature of the Bible
 - i. united under the inspiration of God
 - ii a progressive Christ centred revelation
 - iii appeals ethically to decree, intuition and utility

- b God in History
 - i. sovereignty
 - ii patience, long-suffering
 - iii giving people up
 - iv law for the lawless
 - v governments
 - vi fulfilling his plans in Jesus
 - vii regenerating his people

- c Reading the Bible
 - i. examples that illustrate principles by propositions
 - ii moral propositions
 - iii moral consequences
 - iii Jesus' logic

- d The Genesis of Marriage
 - i. creation of humanity
 - ii fulfilled in Christ and his bride
 - iii overseers, deacons and widows
 - iv God's way and Our way