

Marriage, Relationships and Singleness

The Bible's big picture – Dominic Steele

1 mess and confusion

c man 3:17-19

2 In the beginning (Mark 10:1-12; c.f. Matthew 19:1-12, c.f. Genesis 1-2)

a men and women - equal (Genesis 1:26-28)

b and different (Genesis 2)

gardener

helper c.f. Genesis 2:18, 20; Exodus 18:4; Deuteronomy 33:29; Nehemiah 4:22; Psalm 10:14, 27:9, 118:7; Hosea 13:9; Acts 13:5; Hebrews 13:6

'Ontological Status' is not linked to 'Functional role'

3 Autonomy in relationships (Genesis 3)

a Vertical: God and humanity

b Horizontal: Husband(gardener) and wife(helper)

4 Judgement (Genesis 3)

a serpent 3:14-15

b woman 3:16 cf 4:7

5 The impact of the coming of Jesus

a 1 Corinthians 11:2

b Ephesians 5:18-32

6 The future Revelation 21:1-5

7 How do we live now ? 1 Corinthians 7

a stay, unless 7:17-24

b widows and widowers 7:8-9

c married – both believers 7:10-11

d married – believer with an unbeliever 7:12-16

e single – unless 7:25-40