

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say unto you, That **if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask**, ( *like: God join them together*) it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Matthew 18:18-20

And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. **What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.** Matthew 19: 4-6

And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. Mark 10: 8

What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. 1 Corinthians 6: 16

For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. Ephesians 5: 31

And the LORD God said, **It is not good that the man should be alone**; I will make him an help meet for him. Genesis 2: 18

And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. Genesis 2: 22

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. Genesis 2: 24

**Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man** for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 1 Peter 2: 13

## Common-Law Marriage

To be defined as a common-law marriage within the states that allow it, **the two people must: agree that they are married**, live together, and present themselves as husband and wife. Common-law marriage is generally a non-ceremonial relationship that requires "a **positive mutual agreement**, permanent and exclusive of all others, to enter into a marriage relationship, cohabitation sufficient to warrant a fulfillment of necessary relationship of man and wife, and an assumption of marital duties and obligations." Black's Law Dictionary 277 (6th ed. 1990).

**Before modern domestic relations statutes, couples became married by a variety of means that developed from custom.**

These became the elements of a "common-law marriage," or **a marriage that arose through the couple's conduct, instead of through a ceremony**. In many ways, the theory of common-law marriage is one of estoppel - meaning that couples who have told the world they are married should not be allowed to claim they aren't when in a dispute between themselves.

Currently, only nine states (Alabama, **Colorado**, Kansas, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Iowa, Montana, Oklahoma and **Texas**) and the District of Columbia recognize common-law marriages. In addition, five states have "grandfathered" common-law marriage (Georgia, Idaho, Ohio, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania) allowing those established before a certain date to be recognized. New Hampshire recognizes common-law marriage for purposes of probate only, and Utah recognizes common-law marriages only if they have been validated by a court or administrative order.

The U.S. Constitution requires every state to accord "full faith and credit" to the laws of its sister states. Thus, a common-law marriage that is validly contracted in a state where such marriages are legal will be valid even in states where such marriages cannot be contracted and may be contrary to public policy.

Actions speak louder than words; **a marriage that arose through the couple's conduct, instead of through a ceremony.**

a survey can be misleading of true facts *principle say I am married and is not; say I am not married and is?* Matthew 21: 28-31  
Matthew 15: 8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

Be not deceived; **God is not mocked**: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Galatians 6: 7