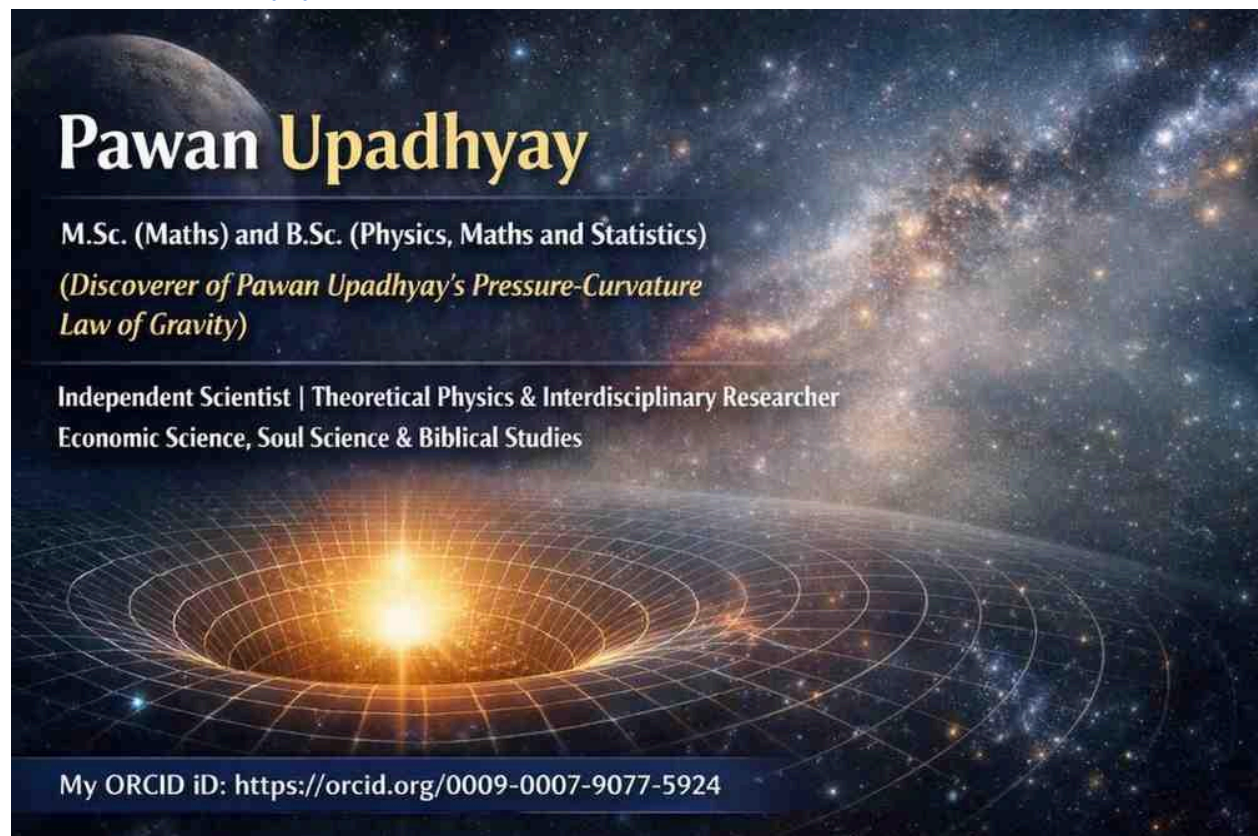


Holy Marriage as the Union of Two Souls: A Biblical Study

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Abstract

Holy Marriage, as presented in the Bible, is not merely a social contract but a sacred union established by God. It is the joining of a man and a woman into one covenantal relationship, often described as the union of two souls accepted and blessed by God. This research paper examines the biblical foundation of Holy Marriage, its divine origin, spiritual nature, moral responsibilities, and theological significance. Using references from both the Old and New Testaments, the study highlights marriage as a holy vocation designed for companionship, faithfulness, and mutual sanctification.

1. Introduction

Marriage occupies a central place in biblical theology. From the creation narrative in Genesis to the teachings of Jesus and the apostles, marriage is consistently portrayed as a sacred institution ordained by God. According to Scripture, a man lives with a woman through Holy Marriage not merely by human agreement but through divine acceptance and blessing. This paper explores the biblical understanding of marriage as the union of two souls under God's authority.

2. Divine Origin of Holy Marriage

The Bible presents marriage as God's initiative, not a human invention. God Himself establishes the marital bond between man and woman.

- *"Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh."* (Genesis 2:24)

This verse forms the foundational definition of marriage: leaving, cleaving, and becoming one. The union is both physical and spiritual, signifying a deep bond between two persons.

3. Marriage as the Union of Two Souls

Although Scripture uses the phrase "one flesh," biblical theology understands this as encompassing body, mind, and soul. Holy Marriage unites two lives into one shared spiritual journey.

- *"What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder."* (Matthew 19:6)

This teaching of Jesus emphasizes that marriage is a divine joining. The unity of husband and wife reflects God's action, not merely human will.

4. Acceptance of God in Holy Marriage

Holy Marriage exists within the acceptance and blessing of God. God is an active witness and participant in the marital covenant.

- *"The Lord was witness between you and the wife of your youth."* (Malachi 2:14)

Marriage, therefore, is a covenant made before God, calling both partners to faithfulness, love, and moral responsibility.

5. Companionship and Mutual Support

The Bible teaches that marriage was instituted to overcome human loneliness and to provide mutual help and companionship.

- *"It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."* (Genesis 2:18)

Holy Marriage creates a partnership in which man and woman support one another emotionally, spiritually, and morally.

6. Moral and Spiritual Responsibilities in Marriage

Marriage in the Bible carries ethical obligations. Love, respect, and faithfulness are not optional but commanded.

- *"Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church."* (Ephesians 5:25)
- *"Wives, be subject to your husbands, as to the Lord."* (Ephesians 5:22)

These teachings emphasize mutual self-giving, not domination, and present marriage as a path of sacrificial love.

7. Permanence and Fidelity of Holy Marriage

Holy Marriage is intended to be lifelong and exclusive. Scripture strongly discourages separation and infidelity.

- *"I hate divorce, says the Lord."* (Malachi 2:16)
- *"Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled."* (Hebrews 13:4)

Faithfulness within marriage reflects obedience to God and respect for the sacred covenant.

8. Marriage as a Spiritual Symbol

The New Testament presents marriage as a symbol of the relationship between Christ and the Church.

- *“This is a great mystery, and I mean in reference to Christ and the church.”* (Ephesians 5:32)

Thus, Holy Marriage becomes not only a personal union but also a theological sign pointing toward divine love and unity.

9. Teachings of the Blessed Lord Jesus Christ on Marriage and Divorce

The Blessed Holy Lord Jesus the Nazarene Christ spoke clearly and authoritatively about the sanctity of marriage. He reaffirmed God’s original intention for marriage and strongly condemned divorce, identifying it as a violation of God’s will.

Jesus taught that marriage is a divine union that humans have no authority to break:

- *“Have you not read that he who made them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder.”* (Matthew 19:4–6)

Jesus explicitly identified divorce as sinful because it leads to adultery:

- *“Whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity, and marries another, commits adultery.”* (Matthew 19:9)
- *“Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her.”* (Mark 10:11)
- *“Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery.”* (Luke 16:18)

Through these teachings, Jesus restored the holiness, permanence, and moral seriousness of marriage, calling His followers to fidelity and obedience to God’s design.

10. Theological Implications of Holy Marriage

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Understanding marriage as the union of two souls accepted by God has important implications:

- Marriage is sacred, not merely social
 - God is central to marital unity
 - Love and fidelity are acts of obedience to God
 - Marriage serves spiritual growth and sanctification
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10. Conclusion

The Bible clearly teaches that Holy Marriage is the union of a man and a woman joined by God Himself. It is a covenantal relationship involving body, mind, and soul, lived out under divine acceptance. Through Holy Marriage, two souls walk together in faith, love, and moral responsibility. Scripture presents marriage as permanent, sacred, and spiritually meaningful, calling couples to reflect God's faithful love in their shared life.

Keywords

Holy Marriage, biblical marriage, union of souls, covenant, man and woman, Christian theology

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