

Is there any place in the Bible that says you have to stand in front of a minister to be married.

Not specifically – however,

Rom 13:1 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

If we are to obey the laws of Maryland, we have to go to the courthouse in the jurisdiction where the ceremony is to be performed, get a license, and have a “recognized minister” perform the wedding.

There are no set requirements other than the filling out of the marriage license and the signature of the minister and participants.

As a matter of record, any time a member of the church of Christ is asked to perform such service, they should be recognized by the local body as a minister.

By the word “minister”, the world sees this as one who is appointed to carry out the “rites” of the church, e.g., preaching before the church, thus any teacher or preacher, part time or otherwise would be considered a minister in the church and is suitable in any state in the US.

Sexual relations do not mean a couple is married, even if they intend it to be so unless they have complied with the laws of the land.

That is, if a couple gets together and decide they are married, they are merely living in sin. The state does not recognize their intent unless such cohabitation continues for 7-10 years and then only in 12 states.— Maryland is not one of them!

Heb 13:4 Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

whoremongers and adulterers (KJV)
fornicators and adulterers (NAS)

The difference the actions between a fornicator and an adulterer is the breaking of the marriage
vow.

In the Scriptures, marriage is recognized as a
“taking.”

Gen 11:29 And Abram and Nahor took wives

Gen 16:3 ... Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the
Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her
husband as a wife.

Gen 24.3 ... that you will not take a wife for my
son from the daughters of the Canaanites

Gen 24.7 took Rebekah, and she became his wife,

Gen 30:4 So she gave him her servant Bilhah as a wife, and Jacob went in to her.

Exo 22:16-17 "If a man seduces a virgin who is not engaged, and lies with her, he must pay a dowry for her to be his wife. (17) "If her father absolutely refuses to give her to him, he shall pay money equal to the dowry for virgins.

Concerning the wife of the high priest

Lev 21:13 'He shall take a wife in her virginity. 14 'A widow, or a divorced woman, or one who is profaned by harlotry, these he may not take; but rather he is to marry a virgin of his own people,

Lev 18 gives the laws of incest – 6 near kin; 7 father mother; 8 father's wife; 9 sister step-sister; 10 niece; 11, 12 aunt; 13 daughter-in-law; 14 16 uncle's wife; 17 mother daughter, granddaughter; 18 wife's sister if she is living; 19 neighbor's wife; 22 homosexual; 23 bestiality;

Lev 18:30 'Thus you are to keep My charge, that you do not practice any of the abominable customs which have been practiced before you, so as not to defile yourselves with them; I am the LORD your God.'"

Who is Lucifer?

Isa 14:12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! (KJV)

Isa 14:12 "How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning, son of the dawn! ... (NAS)

King of Babylon

Isa 14:4 that you will take up this taunt against the king of Babylon, and say, "How the oppressor has ceased, And how fury has ceased!"

Isa 14:22 "I will rise up against them," declares the LORD of hosts, "and will cut off from Babylon name and survivors, offspring and posterity," declares the LORD.

Who is Lucifer?

Luk 10:18 And He said to them, "I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning.

the similarity of Jesus statement and Isa 14:12 leads to the conclusion that Lucifer is Satan and also Rev 12:9 but the word in Hebrew merely means the bright or burning

Please Explain

Mt1:17 says there are 14 generations from the
deportation to Babylon and the time of Christ
Lk 3:25-31 42 generations rather than the 27
given by Matthew

In neither case does the word “son” appear other than in Lk 3.23 but is supplied by the translators.

G5207 υἱός uihos Thayer Definition:

1) a son

1a) rarely used for the young of animals

1b) generally used of the offspring of men

1c) in a restricted sense, the male offspring (one born by a father and of a mother)

1d) in a wider sense, a descendant, one of the posterity of any one

1d1) the children of Israel

1d2) sons of Abraham

Notice that in the 3 x 14 generations given by Matthew, there are two repetitions – David and the deportation to Babylon.

The numbering is a common way to make it easier to memorize.

Mat 1:17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

Apparently in Matthew we have the actual genealogy of Joseph which would be the legal pedigree of Jesus according to Jewish custom. In Luke we apparently have the actual genealogy of Mary which would be the real line of Jesus which Luke naturally gives as he is writing for the Gentiles.

Matthew does not mean to say that there were only fourteen in actual genealogy. The names of the women (Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba the wife of Uriah) are not counted.

Sabbath Day Question When is it and when are we supposed to worship?

Deu 5:12-15 'Observe the sabbath day to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. ...

(15) 'And you shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out of there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to observe the sabbath day.

It is correctly pointed out that both Jesus and Paul went to the synagogue on the Sabbath.

However, the Gentiles were not commanded to keep the Sabbath –

Act 15:28-29 "For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials: (29) that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication; if you keep yourselves free from such things, you will do well.

Farewell."

We have only one command concerning the day and that is arrived at by considering two passages.

Why was the church to meet?

1Co 11:18-20 For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part, I believe it. (19) For there must also be factions among you, in order that those who are approved may have become evident among you. (20) Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper,

When did they meet?

1Co 16:2 On the first day of every week let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.

Beside the command in 1Cor 16.2, we have one example of the time the brethren come together

Act 20:6-7 And we sailed from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread, and came to them at Troas within five days; and there we stayed seven days. (7) And on the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to depart the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.

...11 And when he had gone back up, and had broken the bread and eaten, he talked with them a long while, until daybreak, and so departed.

1Co 10:16 Is not the cup of blessing which we
bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the
bread which we break a sharing in the body of
Christ?

Would you share with Christ?

Act 22:16 'And now why do you delay? Arise, and
be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on
His name.'

