

An Exposition of the 2nd (1689) London Baptist Confession
Chapter 25.1-4: Of Marriage

25.1 Marriage is to be between one man and one woman; neither is it lawful for any man to have more than one wife, nor for any woman to have more than one husband at the same time.^a

^a Gen. 2:24; Mal. 2:15; Matt. 19:5–6

_____ - authority based on Church Law

_____ - authority based on Civil Law

_____ - authority based on Divine Law

25.2 Marriage was ordained for the mutual help of husband and wife,^a for the increase of mankind with a legitimate issue,^b and the preventing of uncleanness.^c

^a Gen. 2:18 ^b Gen. 1:28 ^c 1 Cor. 7:2,9

25.3 It is lawful for all sorts of people to marry, who are able with judgment to give their consent;^a yet it is the duty of Christians to marry in the Lord;^b and therefore such as profess the true religion, should not marry with infidels, or idolaters; neither should such as are godly, be unequally yoked, by marrying with such as are wicked in their life, or maintain damnable heresy.^c

^a Heb. 13:4; 1 Tim. 4:3 ^b 1 Cor. 7:39 ^c Neh. 13:25–27

25.4 Marriage ought not to be within the degrees of consanguinity or affinity, forbidden in the Word;^a nor can such incestuous marriages ever be made lawful, by any law of man or consent of parties, so as those persons may live together as man and wife^b

^a Lev. 18 ^b Mark 6:18; 1 Cor. 5:1