Cross Walk Church Position Statement: Marriage

We believe that marriage is a God-ordained covenant relationship between a man and a woman. Their commitment to each other is legitimized not by a general agreement, but by an act of God. It is solemnized officially through the church or the government, whereby God joins the couple into a one flesh relationship (Matthew 19:4-5). This relationship is to be for a lifetime. Jesus affirmed the lifelong commitment of marriage by stating: "What God has joined together, do not let man separate" (Matthew 19:6).

Marriage is not the result of human society's need for order; therefore it cannot be minimized even when a society no longer deems it valid. Since it is not a human-originated institution, humans do not have the right to redefine it. When God created man and woman and placed them in the Garden of Eden, He declared them to be one flesh. The woman was given to the man as a suitable helper (Genesis 2).

In the inevitable event that government redefines marriage to include any two consenting parties, whether of the same sex, transgender couples or any other type of relationship, the Bible will remain the authority for defining marriage. In other words, the Bible always trumps the government, popular opinion or personal desires.

We believe that marriage is only between a sexually unaltered man and woman (those who have always been male and female, and have not voluntarily undergone a sex-change) is recognized by our church. We will not receive anyone into the membership of this church who is in a marriage other than that which is one man and one woman as defined above.

The sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman must be upheld as the only biblically recognized marriage. Marriage between one man and one woman is a picture of Jesus Christ's love for His Bride, the Church (Ephesians 5:22-33).