



woman remember, it will cause her to take great heed vnto, and be a more warie and carefull keeper of her honestie, which alone being lost, though all other things be neuer so wel and safe, yet they perish together therewith, because shee that hath once lost her *Honestie*, should think there is nothing left. Take from a maide or woman her beautie, take from her, kindred, riches, comelineffe, eloquence, sharpnesse of wit, cunning in her craft, and giue her *Chastitie*, and you haue giuen her all things. And on the other side, giue her all these things, and call her whoore, or naughtie packe: with that one word you haue taken all from her, and left her bare and foule. How precious a iewell *Chastitie* is, may easly be gathered from the example of

*Gen. 34.* *Dinah* the daughter of *Leah*, which shee bare  
 1. 2. vnto *Iacob*, who when hee heard that shee was rauished, and defiled by *Sechem*, the sonne of *Hamor* the Hiuite, Lord of that countrey, his mind was grieuouly wounded with this great shame and reproach.

Children may not marry without the consent and agreement of their parents: so that an vnlawfull promise made by the childe, may lawfully be broken.

Children may not forget this dutie; for hauing receiued their being from their parentes, and being brought vp by them, with great paines and much cost, they should not so much as giue any liking, much lesse speech of marriage, without the consent of parents, or of those which are set ouer them by their parents: the dutie of thankfulness requiring it at their

their hands. And not onely in regard of thankfulness, is this dutie to be performed to their parents, but euen in regard of their owne inability, as being not experienced in such thinges, and their wits being not so ripe as their parents, they wanting wisdom and discretion to behaue themselues as they ought. For some children know not what is meete and conuenient for them, nor whether they be of meete age and condition to marrie. Which inability being in the founnes, is much more in the daughters, as being the weaker by nature, and more vnable to provide for themselues: and therefore it is necessarie, that they should not marrie without the consent and direction of their parents, but that they be at their bestowing: for, to doo otherwise is a sinne, euen that nature it selfe abhorreth: and all sound writers, olde and new, do vtterly disallow. And for so much as marriage is the meanes, the which God himselfe hath ordained, and sanctified for the propogation and increase of mankinde; that being taken in hand in his teare, a godly seede being multiplyed and growne vp here on earth, the same may be blessed to the constitution & making of a Church, the which may serue him in holiness and righteousness: when the same is taken in hand, with the breach of his commandement, so farre off is it, that any blessing is to be hoped for, that contrariwise, his hot indignation, wrath and heauy curse hangeth ouer that house and family, where

It is a sweete wedding, when the father and the mother bring a blessing to the feast: and a heauie vniō, which is cursed the first day that it is knit.

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