

Series "Called To Be Saints"
"Happily, Unmarried"
1 Corinthians 7:17-40
Part-13

The Bible teaches that there is a Goodness In Singleness: **(Verses - 1, 8, 26)**

The Bible teaches that both singleness and marriage are a gift:

1 Corinthians 7:7

That having a right relationship with God determines all other relationships.

INSTRUCTION: THE REPLY TO THEIR QUESTIONS—7:1-16:12

1 Corinthians —7 Marriage, Singleness, Divorce, Remarriage.

Thought of Our Passage: "Whether Our Gift Is To Be Married Or Single, We Are To Be Faithful In Fulfilling God's Call For Our Lives."

- 1. Verses 17-24 Singleness And Culture**
- 2. Verses 25-38 Singleness And Expediency**
- 3. Verses 39-40 Singleness And Re-marriage**

1. Verses 17-24 Singleness And Culture

1 Corinthians 7:17 Only, as the Lord has assigned to each one,
Context - Paul left off speaking about a Christian married to a non-Christian.

Verse 14 Reasons For Continuing The Marriage:

Verses 15-16 Reason For Ending The Marriage:

Now - 1 Corinthians 7:17 assigned – *"to apportion, bestow, share"*
Speaks of marriage or singleness.

1 Timothy 4:1-3

as God has called each, in this manner let him walk.
This speaks of our lifestyle.

Ephesians 4:1

Jesus, speaking on marriage and divorce said this!

Matthew 19:12 And so, I direct in all the churches.

Paul is being consistent.

1 Corinthians 7:18 Why does Paul speak of Circumcision?

He is speaking of our physical condition, a state!

He is not to be circumcised.

Are they any less because they have been? NO!

1 Corinthians 7:19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, The Jews were making more of it than what God meant it to be.

but what matters is the keeping of the commandments of God.

God wants the heart not outward rituals. **Galatians 5:6**

1 Corinthians 7:20 A saved Jew and a saved Gentile are equally saved.

1 Corinthians 7:21 Were you called while a slave? Do not worry about it; You are in the place that God wants you to be.

but if you are able also to become free, rather do that.

Freedom without Jesus and morals will bring destruction.

1 Corinthians 7:22 For he who was called in the Lord while a slave, is the Lord's freedman; John 8:36

likewise, he who was called while free, is Christ's slave.

We now become slaves and the property of Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 7:23-24 God is in control of our lives. We are not to try and escape from the place that God has placed us.

Contentment – (Trusting and resting)

2. Verses 25-38 Singleness And Expediency

1 Corinthians 7:25 Now concerning virgins - new subject is introduced. Those never married.

Verses 25-26 Virgins: I have no command of the Lord,

Paul had no direct word from God as to what they should do. Jesus did not go into detail when He was on earth.

but I give an opinion - Based on Paul's experience and observations.

as one who by the mercy of the Lord - Paul had come to know the forgiveness of God.

is trustworthy.

Paul was an apostle and was entrusted with the message of God.

1 Corinthians 7:26 I think then that this is good in view of the present distress, - Paul's time was a difficult time to serve God in. This has to be kept in mind in understanding this passage.

Verses 27-28 Be Content: 1 Corinthians 7:27 Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be released. He is speaking to those that are married he is saying don't seek for a divorce.

Jeremiah 29 Some false prophets had been teaching the exiles from Jerusalem that had been taken to Babylon, that at any time they would be released. Life was on hold. **Jeremiah 29:5-7** Get married, plant, build, pray for the cities you live in!

Start living, don't postpone living, life is now! Start being that Godly husband, start being that godly wife.

Are you released from a wife? Do not seek a wife.

The term we would use today is called "*Rebounding; On The Rebound*"

1 Corinthians 7:28 But if you should marry, you have not sinned; This is speaking about the one that has been divorced. This is speaking about the person that has been divorced for desertion or immorality. In these **cases**, it is acceptable to be remarried.

and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. That it is acceptable to marry.

Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you. I believe that what Paul is saying is that in the case of remarriage, there are some problems that are associated with remarriage.

Verses 29-35 Brevity Of Life: (Mobility of Singleness)

1 Corinthians 7:29 Believers are not to be preoccupied with the things of this world.

1 Corinthians 7:30-31 Paul is speaking of the difficult times they were living in and in the time ahead of them.

1 Corinthians 7:32 Benefit of singleness is great mobility.

1 Corinthians 7:33 how he may please his wife, That is so! And it needs to be so!

That when we are married if we are not trying to please our spouse, we won't be married very long.

1 Corinthians 7:34 This is the big difference between the single and married life. The life is divided because of the calling of each person.

1 Corinthians 7:35 Paul is not trying to put a restraint upon any in the church. He is wanting each person to truly search the heart and pursue what is proper in our lives.

Verses 36-38 Father Of The Unmarried: 1 Corinthians 7:36-37
He has the right to keep his daughter single. Prearranged marriages.

1 Corinthians 7:38 Based on the current difficulties of Paul's time that they were living in.

3. Verses 39-40 Singleness And Re-marriage

1 Corinthians 7:39 A wife is bound as long as her husband lives;
This speaks of the commitment of marriage is for life.

but if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord. Notice it is to be Christian and Christian that are to be married.

1 Timothy 5:11,14

1 Corinthians 7:40 There are the new set of problems that are associated with remarriage.

and I think that I also have the Spirit of God. He is speaking as one that is filled with the Holy Spirit.

Application:

- 1. Question To All:** What is my gift from God? (Need to learn contentment.)
- 2. Question To All:** Am I serving God in my married or single state?
- 3. Question To The Single:** Am I marrying a believer? (I have not asked!)
- 4. Question To The Single:** Are my circumstances such that marriage is right? (Divorce, rebounding)
- 5. Question To The Single:** How will marriage affect my service for Christ?
- 6. Question To The Single:** Am I prepared to enter into this union for life? (What have I done to prepare?)