

MARRIAGE AND STATUS QUO

1. PRINCIPLE: If you are a believer and you are single, remain in that status, "grow in GRACE," learn the doctrine of Right-man and Right-woman, until the situation of singledom changes.
2. It is much better to be single than married to the Wrong-woman.
3. If you cannot live with yourself, you cannot take your problems and live with someone else. Changing from single to married status is the most insane thing you can do, because you make your problems worse. If a man cannot support himself, then he can't support others who are dependent on him.
 - A. "He that provideth not for his family ..."
4. As a believer, it is better, first of all, to understand pertinent doctrines on the subject of sex, love, and marriage before any change is made in status.
 - A. 1 Corinthians 7:8-10, "I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn. And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband."
5. You, when studying Right-man and Right-woman, may come to the conclusion that you are married to the wrong person. This is NOT an excuse to break up the marriage. Keep "growing in GRACE," and lean heavily on the Lord.
6. You can turn an unhappy marriage into a happy one by:
 - A. Accepting Christ as your personal Saviour. Your domestic problems are secondary to your relationship with the Lord.
 - B. Get with the filling of God the Holy Spirit, and "grow in GRACE" and move into maturity as fast as possible. Being GRACE oriented, plus having a relaxed mental attitude, and having the mastery over the details of life, and a capacity for love and life, will do wonders for your marriage.
7. If, as a believer, you go against God's will (marry an unbeliever or a wrongly divorced person) remain in status quo (marriage). You are not to break it up. Get back in fellowship, never look back. God has forgotten it and so should you.
8. You will have problems, natural repercussions of a mixed marriage, but your responsibility is to stay filled with God the Holy Spirit and learn the Word of God and use the principle of winning the unbelieving mate to the Lord.

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