

“Should I get married?”
1 Corinthians 7:1-7

I. A person’s maturity in Christ is not determined by their relationship status (vs. 1-2).

- A. It is alright if a man or woman remains single.
- B. Singles must remain abstain from sexual relations.

(Genesis 1:26-27; 5:1-2; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5; Hebrews 13:4)

II. If a person marries, he or she has responsibilities to her spouse (vs. 3-5).

- A. In marriage, we surrender authority of our bodies to our spouse.
- B. When we fail to meet the needs of our spouse, we cheat her or him.

(Luke 22:31-32; 1 Peter 5:8)

III. If a person remains single, he or she has a gift from God (vs. 6-7).

- A. This does not mean that being married makes one inferior.
- B. Being single results in the advantage of being able to focus solely on the Lord.

(Genesis 2:18; Matthew 19:3-12)

Scripture References and Notes

1 Corinthians 16:17

I rejoice over the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have supplied what was lacking on your part.

“This, however, is perfectly well known, that immediately after the first rise of the Church, there crept into it, through Satan’s artifice, a superstition of such a kind, that a large proportion of them, through a foolish admiration of celibacy, despised the sacred connection of marriage; nay more, many regarded it with abhorrence, as a profane thing.”

– John Calvin, *1 Corinthians*.

ἅπτω (haptó)

- to make close contact
- to fasten to, lay hold of

2 Corinthians 6:14-18

¹⁴Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? ¹⁵Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? ¹⁶Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, “I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.” ¹⁷“Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE,” says the Lord. “AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will welcome you. ¹⁸“And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me,” Says the Lord Almighty.

Hebrews 13:4

Marriage *is to be held* in honor among all, and the *marriage bed is to be undefiled*; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

Genesis 1:26-27

²⁶Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Genesis 5:1-2

¹This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. ²He created them male and female, and He blessed them and named them Man in the day when they were created.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

³For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴ that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, ⁵ not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God...

Genesis 2:18

Then the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.”

Matthew 19:3-12

³Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, “Is it lawful *for a man* to divorce his wife for any reason at all?” ⁴And He answered and said, “Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE, ⁵ and said, ‘FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH’? ⁶So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.” ⁷They said to Him, “Why then did Moses command to GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE AND SEND *her* AWAY?” ⁸He said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way. ⁹And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.” ¹⁰The disciples said to Him, “If the relationship of the man with his wife is like this, it is better not to marry.” ¹¹But He said to them, “Not all men *can* accept this statement, but *only* those to whom it has been given. ¹²For there are eunuchs who were born that way from their mother’s womb; and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men; and there are *also* eunuchs who made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who is able to accept *this*, let him accept *it*.”

authority [ἐξουσιάζω (exousiazó)]

- to have the right of control, have the right/power for something or over someone
- to have or exercise power or authority over anyone

depriving

- ἀποστερέω (apostereó)
- I defraud, deprive of, despoil; mid: I endure deprivation; pass: I am bereft of.
- properly, keep *away* from someone, i.e. by *defrauding* (depriving); to cheat, taking away what rightfully belongs to someone else.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Luke 22:31-32

³¹“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded *permission* to sift you like wheat; ³²but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”