

To Leave or Not To Leave, That Is The Question?

Text:

Romans 12:18 *If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.*

1Corinthians 7:16 says, *For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?*

To Leave or Not To Leave, That Is The Question?

Church, in this chapter the apostle Paul seeks to answer several major questions regarding marriage. Firstly he addresses married Christians by stating that they should not seek to part from their unbelieving spouse because people, in any fixed, or predetermined situation, should more often than not, abide in that position. Secondly, he emphasizes that it was most desirable, on account of the then dangerous and uncertain days, for people to remain unattached in this world and thirdly that the children in any such union will be considered clean. So, he tells us that great care and caution should be used in marriage and that it should be only authorized in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Paul emphatically says **to** the Church of Corinth

1Corinthians 7:1 *Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman.*

7:2 *Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.*

7:3 *Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence (kindness, compassion generosity, goodwill) and likewise also the wife unto the husband.*

7:4 *The wife hath not power (authority, control, rule) of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.*

7:5 *Defraud (cheat, deprive, take advantage of) ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.*

7:6 *But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment.*

7:7 *For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.*

7:8 *I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I.*

7:9 *But if they cannot contain (control, restrain keep in check) let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn (be on fire with desire).*

Saints of God, Paul is essentially saying that a man and wife must not separate for any cause other than what Christ allows. You see, divorce, at that time, was very common among both Jews and Gentiles, on very slight or alleged reasons. But here Paul reminds us that marriage is a Divine institution and a commitment for life.

Romans 12:18 *If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.*

Yes, peacefully to promote the harmony and comfort of our nearest relatives, even though they are unbelievers. My friends it should be the labor and study of those who are married, to make each other as easy and happy as possible. Should a Christian desert a husband or wife, when there is opportunity to give the greatest proof of love? Stay and labor energetically for the change of our relative. Church, in every state and relation the Lord has called us to peace; and everything should be done to promote harmony, as far as truth and holiness will permit.

Brethren every since men became enemies to God, they have been truly ready to be enemies to one another. Furthermore, those that have embraced religion should also anticipate facing their enemies in a world whose smiles rarely agree with Christ's. No my friends, we are to repay no man evil for evil because that is a cruel and suitable for animals only, because they have no consciousness of any being beyond themselves, or of life after death. Church, we should always learn the things that create peace, if it is at all

possible, without offending God and upsetting our sense of what is right or wrong. “*Avenge not yourselves,*” is one of the hardest lessons for our corrupt nature to learn, and so a remedy against it is added. “*Give place not unto wrath,*” Saints, “*when a man's passion is up, and the stream is strong, let it pass off; lest it be made to rage the more against us.*” My friends learn to overpower all wickedness against you first by changing the plans, and secondly by safeguarding your own peace, because “*he that has rule over his spirit, is better than the mighty.*”

1Corinthians 7:10 *And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband:*

7:11 *But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.*

7:12 *But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away.*

7:13 *And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him.*

7:14 *For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy.*

7:15 *But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.*

7:16 *For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?*

Church the apostle Paul here tells the Corinthians that it was good, during that moment in time, for Christians to keep themselves single. Nevertheless, he says that marriage, and the comforts of that condition, were established by Divine wisdom. Despite the fact that none may break the law of God, up until now that perfect rule left men at liberty to serve Him in the way most suited to their powers and circumstances, of which other men and women are often very incompetent and untrained judges. Brothers and sisters, each and every one must determine for themselves, while they seek guidance and encouragement from God as to how they should to proceed.

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1Corinthians 7:17 *But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches.*

7:18 *Is any man called being circumcised? let him not become uncircumcised. Is any called in uncircumcision? let him not be circumcised.*

7:19 *Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God.*

7:20 *Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called.*

7:21 *Art thou called being a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather.*

7:22 *For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant.*

7:23 *Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.*

7:24 *Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God.*

My brothers and sisters, the rules of Christianity cause somebody to come in contact with every condition. Therefore my friends, a man in every state may live so as to be a credit to it. It is the duty of every Christian to be content with his destiny, and to conduct himself in his position and what place as becomes a Christian. Our comfort and happiness depend on what we are to Christ, not what we are in the world. No man should think to make his faith or religion, an argument to break through any natural or civil obligations. He should quietly and contentedly abide in the condition in which he is placed by Divine Providence.