

May 23, 2021

1 Corinthians 7

## “A Calling to Singleness”

### I. God has given some the gift of marriage and some the gift of singleness (vv. 6-8, 17)

6 But I say this as a concession, not as a commandment. 7 For I wish that all men were even as I myself. But each one has his own gift from God, one in this manner and another in that. 8 But I say to the unmarried and to the widows: It is good for them if they remain even as I am; ... 17 But as God has distributed to each one, as the Lord has called each one, so let him walk. And so I ordain in all the churches. - **1 Corinthians 7:6-8, 17 NKJV**

### II. The gift of singleness includes a calling to celibacy. (vv. 1-2, 9)

1 Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me: [It is] good for a man not to touch a woman. 2 Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. ... 9 but if they cannot exercise self-control, let them marry. For it is better to marry than to burn [with passion]. - **1 Corinthians 7:1-2, 9 NKJV**

### III. The gift of singleness allows a follower of Jesus to have a single focus on pleasing God. (vv. 26, 29-31, 32-35)

26 I suppose therefore that this is good because of the present distress--that [it is] good for a man to remain as he is: ...

29 But this I say, brethren, the time [is] short, so that from now on even those who have wives should be as though they had none, 30 those who weep as though they did not weep, those who rejoice as though they did not rejoice, those who buy as though they did not possess, 31 and those who use this world as not misusing [it]. For the form of this world is passing away.

32 But I want you to be without care. He who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord--how he may please the Lord. 33 But he who is married cares about the things of the world--how he may please [his] wife. 34 There is a difference between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman cares about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit. But she who is married cares about the things of the world--how she may please [her] husband. 35 And this I say for your own profit, not that I may put a leash on you, but for what is proper, and that you may serve the Lord without distraction. - **1 Corinthians 7:26, 29-31, 32-35 NKJV**