

AND YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS

ON BEING SINGLE

1 Corinthians 7:25-39 Jeff Schreve

But I say to the unmarried and to the widows that it is good for them if they remain even as I am. 1 Corinthians 7:8

Is it really a good thing to be single?

1. Being single is less trouble.

*I think then that this is good in view of the present distress, that it is good for a man to remain as he is. Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be released. Are you released from a wife? **Do not seek a wife**. But if you should marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin should marry, she has not sinned.*

Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you.

1 Corinthians 7:26-28

A. The definition of conflict: two people.

B. The advice of Paul: do not seek a spouse.

Seek the Lord and His strength; Seek His face continually.

Psalm 105:4

He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the Lord. Proverbs 18:22

2. Being single is more in line with heaven's social order.

But let me say this, dear brothers and sisters: The time that remains is very short. So from now on, those with wives should not focus only on their marriage. Those who weep or who rejoice or who buy things should not be absorbed by their weeping or their joy or their possessions. Those who use the things of the world should not become attached to them. For this world as we know it will soon pass away. 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 NLT

A. There is no marriage in heaven.

For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. Matthew 22:30

B. The things of this world are temporary and fleeting.

3. Being single allows for undistracted devotion to Jesus.

An unmarried man can spend his time doing the Lord's work and thinking how to please him. But a married man has to think about his earthly responsibilities and how to please his wife. His interests are divided. In the same way, a woman who is no longer married or has never been married can be devoted to the Lord and holy in body and in spirit. But a married woman has to think about her earthly responsibilities and how to please her husband. I am saying this for your benefit, not to place restrictions on you. I want you to do whatever will help you serve the Lord best, with as few distractions as possible. 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

A. Married people have divided interests and responsibilities.

B. Single people are less encumbered.

4. Being single frees you from the permanence of marriage.

A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. If her husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, but only if he loves the Lord. But in my opinion she is happier if she remains as she is; and I think that I also have the Spirit of God. 1 Corinthians 7:39-40

* Marriage is for a lifetime ... so choose wisely.