

Preparation for Godly Marriage Part 6

We continue in this message to speak about the preparation for Godly marriage:

VII. Both, the man and the woman, need to leave their father and mother: “24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” (Genesis 2:24 KJV) For the marriage to occur the man and the woman, both of them need to leave their father and mother. What is meant here is that the man and the woman had finished his or her obligations toward his or her parents. If his or her parents are old and are dependent on him or on her in their living and well being, then marriage should not take place, otherwise, after marriage, you will find disorder inside the family because the man and his wife were not committed to one another but they are still committed and loyal to their parents and to meet their needs.

If the man or the woman has still need to support their parents then Biblically that is their responsibility and they cannot keep it aside for the Scriptures instruct us that they need to support their parents, “8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.” (1 Timothy 5:8 KJV) In such a situation, marriage will not be proceeding forward when the man or the woman is still supporting his parents or siblings and he or she bound to them with a solid commitment and big responsibilities.

From this Biblical point of view, they need to get their parents’ approval and their blessings before marriage. Not the approval to whom he or she is going to marry, but they need to release him or release her from his or her commitment toward them. If the parents and the siblings need the elder brother or sister, then that brother or sister their marriage would be delayed till they are done with their responsibilities toward their families.

Certain times the church should look into that and give the permission for that; if the parents are dependent physically and materially on that son or on that daughter and they cannot make it without them, in such a situation, even if the parents agree, the church should study the situation and give a just decision: if the parents or siblings cannot manage alone then the church shall study if he or she can still do his or her support to them after marriage. If that is not possible, then the marriage plans need to be canceled.

VIII. Both need to be mature and can manage family and marriage life without their father and mother: “24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” (Genesis 2:24 KJV) If the man or woman is not mature and cannot manage the family life without the constant help of his or her parents, then he or she is not fit to take such responsibility and go for marriage. But if the parents or the family of the boy or the girl has surplus material resources that can support the marriage of their children without affecting the long-term status of the parents then the marriage can go forward without hindrance.

What Caleb gave to his daughter Achsah in her marriage with Othniel is a good example for that: “16 And Caleb said, He that smiteth Kirjathsepher, and taketh it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter to wife. 17 And Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, took it: and he gave him Achsah his daughter to wife. 18 And it came to pass, as she came unto

him, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted off her ass; and Caleb said unto her, What wouldest thou? 19 Who answered, Give me a blessing; for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water. And he gave her the upper springs, and the nether springs.” (Joshua 15:16-19 KJV) That is an acceptable way to bless the children upon their marriage because these are part of their inheritance and that what they will receive ultimately from the parents after their death.

IX. Both need to understand that they cannot be separated after marriage: “24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” (Genesis 2:24 KJV) The Hebrew Word used for ‘cleave’ is ‘dabaq’, and it means to cling, to stay with, stay close, keep close, stick to, stick with, follow closely, join to, to be joined together, to pursue closely, overtake or catch. The husband and wife should be aware that after marriage they should do their best to stay together, to live and function as one unit. Apostle Paul instructed the following to the husband and the wife:

“3 Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. 4 The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. 5 Defraud 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.” (1 Corinthians 7:3-5 KJV) Paul instructed the husband to render to his wife the due benevolence and likewise the wife to her husband; both of them offering their bodies to one another is mandatory for them to be united and become one. * Copulation or the marriage use of bed should meet the needs of both man and woman. It can be regularly even daily or as they come to agreement about its frequency. The marriage use of bed or copulation is a way that man and woman would be united in body after marriage. The same as they live together eat together, pray together and they sleep together. * About their souls and spirits need also to be united together through praying together, agreeing on the Scriptures and with one another, be willing to be led together with the Holy Spirit and have mutual understanding and good attitude through the cultivation of more of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. * Husband and wife should strive to live together. Men and women before marriage should understand that they cannot be separated from one another. The notion of man and woman live in separate places for the sake of work, or for the sake of career or other causes such as earning a living is not a Biblical reason. That should be clear in the mind of every person who is planning for marriage. We should not permit a married man or woman to be separated from one another for any non-Biblical reason.

“5 Defraud 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.” (1 Corinthians 7:5 KJV) The Hebrew Word for ‘defraud’ is ‘Apostereo’, and it means rob or despoil. The only valid reason for a temporal separation between husband and wife is for prayer and fasting. It depends also on both of them consent and for a certain period that they will spend on prayer and fasting. It needs to be for a limited period of time so they will not be tempted by the devil for their lack of self-control.

X. Both need to understand that they cannot be divorced and remarry another partner: “24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” (Genesis 2:24 KJV) After marriage, there is no choice of separation or separation with remarriage. The Scriptures forbid us from doing such a thing.

About, the priest, the sons of Aaron, God said the following in pertains to their marriage: ***“7 They shall not take a wife that is a whore, or profane; neither shall they take a woman put away from her husband: for he is holy unto his God.” (Leviticus 21:7 KJV)*** We are royal priesthood based on *1 Peter 2:9*, ***“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”*** Therefore, we shall not entertain the thought of divorce or marry a divorced person. God recommended the high priest to do the following: ***“13 And he shall take a wife in her virginity. 14 A widow, or a divorced woman, or profane, or an harlot, these shall he not take: but he shall take a virgin of his own people to wife.” (Leviticus 21:13-14 KJV)***

God hates divorce or separation: ***“14 Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. 15 And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. 16 For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.” (Malachi 2:14-16 KJV)*** God hates divorce and He considers it violence and treachery against God and against one another; the man and his wife.

If that seed of divorce and the marriage of the divorced person is entertained and practiced inside the church then there will be continuous turbulence, defilement, and troubles that will involve the next coming generations. ***“1 When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house. 2 And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's wife. 3 And if the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife; 4 Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the LORD: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.” (Deuteronomy 24:1-4 KJV)*** Here the Lord considered the remarriage of the divorced woman to another man is defilement, ***“after that she is defiled”***, and this is exactly the mind of God.

The Pharisees asked the Lord Jesus, why Moses allowed divorce, and the divorced wife would be given a certificate of divorce, ***“7 They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?” (Matthew 19:7 KJV)*** This is what Jesus answered them, ***“8 He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.” (Matthew 19:8 KJV)*** The hardness in the heart is the reason behind the divorce. And if that seed entertained inside the church, then what will be the lot of the next generations, but hatred, discord, and broken families. The Greek Word that is used for ‘hardness of your hearts’ is ‘Sklerokardia’, and is repeated in *Mark 10:5* about the same issue, ***“5 And Jesus answered and said unto them, For the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept.” (Mark 10:5 KJV)*** And in *Mark 16:14* when Jesus rebuked his Apostles for their unbelief, ***“14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their***

unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.” (Mark 16:14 KJV) So that action of divorce is due to the hardness of heart which had come also from non-believe of what God had said in His Word.

Therefore when divorce is taking place in our midst and the divorced remarry another person, then there is a gap between us and God and we had profaned our covenant with God. The gap is of the hardness of heart and of non-believe in His Word.

In the Old Testament, the Lord used the term divorce when He was putting away His people for their continuous sin and backsliding with their non-willingness to repent. ***“1 Thus saith the LORD, Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement, whom I have put away? or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, and for your transgressions is your mother put away.” (Isaiah 50:1 KJV)*** ***“8 And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also.” (Jeremiah 3:8 KJV)*** Therefore, and in the same way when divorce is entertained and remarriage after divorce is accepted, that means there is a big gap of sin, non-believe and hardness of heart between us and God.

Our Lord Jesus Christ condemned separation, divorce, and remarriage in His teaching: ***“31 It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: 32 But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.” (Matthew 5:31-32 KJV)*** ***“18 Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery.” (Luke 16:18 KJV)*** ***“5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? 6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.” (Matthew 19:5-6 KJV)*** ***“7 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; 8 And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. 9 What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.” (Mark 10:7-9 KJV)***

XI. Men need to understand and agree that they can marry only one wife: “21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.” (Genesis 2:21-22 KJV) God created only one woman to Adam and brought her to him and they become one. ***“24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” (Genesis 2:24 KJV)*** Therefore, there is no place for another woman in the life of the man. Those in the Scriptures who are with multiple wives, they sinned, and they were not doing the will of God but their own will, because, in the beginning, it was not like that.

The New Testament gives clear instruction that the man needs to be the husband of one wife as we can read in the following Scriptures:

“2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach.” (1 Timothy 3:2 KJV)

“12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.” (1 Timothy 3:12 KJV)

“5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: 6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.” (Titus 1:5-6 KJV)

My Dear and Beloved: Let us now review the principles that we studied in this message about preparation for Godly marriage in answering the following questions:

Is your parents and family are ready to leave you to go for marriage?
Can they manage without you?
Are you mature and can manage family and marriage life alone?
If not are your parents having surplus resources that they can help you with in your marriage and family life?
Do you understand and agree that you cannot separate from your partner after marriage but only for prayer and fasting?
Do you understand and agree that you need to unite with your partner, live with him or her and meet his or her body needs?
Do you understand and agree that after your marriage there is no divorce and or remarriage?

If one or more of your answers is with ‘No’, then please come for counseling to be directed further with God’s Word.

Let us pray ...

My Prayer: Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that clarified to me the preparation for Godly marriage. Lord thank you for the counseling and the advices that I received from your Word.

Come now to God and confess and renounce all your sins. Confess and renounce your lack of preparation for marriage, and in doing your own plan and will in pertain to marriage. Confess and renounce your disobedience, bad stewardship, wasting resources on worldly things, and your mismanagement for finances. Confess and renounce your disharmony with your partner by not doing your marital duties. Confess your lack of reading God’s Word and your lack of prayers, Confess and renounce your bad example and your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him. Confess and renounce your yoke with non believers, having many friends and in bondage with the Media. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins

_____ .
Lord I commit myself to do all my assignments and what you asked me to do in pertain to preparation for Godly marriage. Lord I commit myself to do my marital duties towards my partner. Lord I understand and agree about the principles we learned in this message. Lord I am willing to wait upon you, trusting you that you will provide for me all my needs. Lord I

surrender my plan and my will into your hands. Lord I am willing to follow the good plan that you have for me. Lord continue to advice me and direct my steps of what I need to do.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who humbled themselves and agreed about the teaching and the instructions that we received from your Word. Lord bless them and reward them. Grant them success in their marriage and family life and let them shine as a good testimony to others to follow you and obey your Word.

Lord, bless us as your church, and help us to continue to spread your Word and declare your will in full. Lord direct us to give the advices and the right counsel that your people is in need. Lord we pray and trusting you that you will move to make more Godly marriages and form Godly families. Lord prepare us to be ready at your second coming. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and lead us to evangelize reaching new people, making new disciples and training new workers to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, ‘Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.’ Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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