

The Christian and Singleness

What does God's word say about singleness?

Christianity is different from other world views

Judaism, celibacy is to be deplored

Koran encourages single people to marry

Mormons explicitly reject celibacy

Christianity affirms singleness

Who is single?**Is it OK to be single?****The Old covenant**

Gen 2::18, It is not good for man to be alone"

Jeremiah told NOT to marry (Jer 16:1-4).

... a great nation (Gen 12:2)

Old Covenant, "is it OK in the eyes of YHWH to be single?"

"No - you need to aim at getting married and having kids".

The New Covenant

Matthew 19

1 Cor 7:1, "It is good for a man not to marry".

1 Cor 7:38, "so then, he who marries does the right thing, but he who does not marry does even better".

1 Cor 7:7, singleness is a gift from God

1) A life of simplicity

1 cor 7:28

2) A sufficient life

1 Cor 7:29-31

3) A life that is ready and freer to serve

Singleness and sex.

Marriage is the ONLY God approved place for sex

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The Struggles of Singleness

- a struggle with Contentment
- a struggle with Loneliness

Challenges

- Are we as a church as open to encouraging single people to serve the Lord as we are to married people?
- Do we include single people in our social group?
- When you got married did that end the time you spent with people who are single?
- Do you face the danger of being too self focussed?

One final word