# MARRIAGE: TO BE OR NOT TO BE, THAT IS THE QUESTION

## I CORINTHIANS 7:1-7

1. **SINGLENESS (CELIBACY / ABSTINENCE) IS HONORABLE (7:1)**
   1. Four First Century Marriage Scenarios Made The Matter Confusing For These Newly Saved Corinthians
   2. Marriage And Singleness Carry Equal Weight In The Eyes Of God
2. **SINGLENESS IS GOOD BUT IT PROVIDES NO ANSWER IN THE PHYSICAL REALM TO THE TEMPTATIONS CONNECTED TO FORNICATION (7:2)**
   1. Monogamous Marriage Is God's Ordained Alternative To The Sins Of Premarital And Extramarital Fornication
   2. Celibate Singleness, Though Good In & Of Itself, Is Not The Norm For The Majority Of Believers
3. **SINGLE AND MARRIED PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERING RESPONSIBILITIES (7:3-5)**
   1. Marital Partners Have A Responsibility To Meet The Sexual Needs Of One Another (7:3)
   2. Marital Partners Belong To One Another (7:4)
   3. Marital Partners May Temporarily Abstain From A Sexual Relationship (7:5)
4. **SINGLENESS IS A GIFT FROM GOD (7:6-7)**