

MARRIAGE: TO BE OR NOT TO BE, THAT IS THE QUESTION I CORINTHIANS 7:1-7

I. SINGleness (CELIBACY / ABSTINENCE) IS HONORABLE (7:1)

- A. Four First Century Marriage Scenarios Made The Matter Confusing For These Newly Saved Corinthians
- B. Marriage And Singleness Carry Equal Weight In The Eyes Of God

II. SINGleness IS GOOD BUT IT PROVIDES NO ANSWER IN THE PHYSICAL REALM TO THE TEMPTATIONS CONNECTED TO FORNICATION (7:2)

- A. Monogamous Marriage Is God's Ordained Alternative To The Sins Of Premarital And Extramarital Fornication
- B. Celibate Singleness, Though Good In & Of Itself, Is Not The Norm For The Majority Of Believers

III. SINGLE AND MARRIED PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERING RESPONSIBILITIES (7:3-5)

- A. Marital Partners Have A Responsibility To Meet The Sexual Needs Of One Another (7:3)
- B. Marital Partners Belong To One Another (7:4)
- C. Marital Partners May Temporarily Abstain From A Sexual Relationship (7:5)

IV. SINGleness IS A GIFT FROM GOD (7:6-7)