

SINGLENES

Matthew 19:12

SUMMARY...

Singleness is not a disease nor is it a curse from God. Unfortunately, the people of God in the Old Testament had come to adopt this way of thinking. The prevailing attitude was that to remain single would be to dishonor God and His command to be 'fruitful and multiply.' The way the Kingdom of God would grow would be through physical reproduction, thus single people would be ruled out from investing in the Kingdom of God.

But when Jesus, an unmarried Messiah burst forth unto the scene, He redeemed singleness. That is to say that He made clear that the Kingdom of God would not grow through physical reproduction but through spiritual reproduction. Whether God has placed marriage or singleness in your hands 'JUST FOR NOW', you have the opportunity to invest in the Kingdom of God.

A FEW QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER...

1. How has the cultural view towards singleness shaped your thinking? What attitudes and perceptions do you have towards singleness?
2. Consider what the bible has to say about singleness. How could Genesis 1:28 be misinterpreted as a call towards marriage and families? How does Jesus redeem the prevailing attitude toward singles in the Jewish culture (read Matthew 19:12 and 28:18-20)?
3. Jesus mentioned in Matthew 19:12 that there were some who chose to live like Eunuchs for the sake of the Kingdom of God. Why would someone choose to remain single for the sake of the Kingdom of God? Read 1 Corinthians 7:32-35. What advantages does Paul see to being single?
4. If you are married, in what ways do you resonate with 1 Corinthians 7:32-35? In what ways do the distractions and responsibilities in marriage keep you from investing in the Kingdom? How would you summarize your years of singleness? Did you waste it? Seek to get out of it? In what ways were you able to invest in the Kingdom, or were you distracted by the ways of this culture? Most importantly, what impact did singleness have on your marriage?
5. If singleness is in your hands 'Just For Now', how are you investing in the Kingdom of God, or what steps do you need to take to begin investing? Where might you need to repent of and begin to do things differently?

BIBLICAL TEXTS CITED...

Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.”

Genesis 1:28 (NLT)

The Lord gave me another message. He said, “Do not get married or have children in this place. For this is what the Lord says about the children born here in this city and about their mothers and fathers: They will die from terrible diseases. No one will mourn for them or bury them, and they will lie scattered on the ground like manure. They will die from war and famine, and their bodies will be food for the vultures and wild animals.” ***Jeremiah 16:1-4 (NLT)***

“For there are eunuchs who were born that way, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others— and there are those who choose to live like eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.” ***Matthew 19:12 (NLT)***

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” ***Matthew 28:18-20 (NLT)***

"I want you to be free from the concerns of this life. 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 (NLT)***

SERMON ONLINE...

www.genesisthejourney.com/sermon/singleness