

1 Corinthians 18 – 7:12-25

Abiding in the Same Calling

1. 7:10-13 – Marriage Commands

- a. To the unmarried, “abide as I”, in the same calling.
- b. To the married, “stay married” – Divorce is not offered as an option.
- c. Of the divorced, remember Phil 3:13 – forget the things that are behind.
- d. “Remain unmarried or be reconciled”: this doesn’t necessitate a divorce.

2. 7:12-16 – Married to Unbelievers

- a. “speak I, not the Lord” – Inspired men may not be self aware: Acts 1:16
- b. There are things Paul says that the Lord did not - Rom 15:8, 15:16
- c. Unbelievers may be religious Jews or Gentiles.
- d. “do not put her away” – we minister reconciliation, not separation
- e. Forbidding to marry, putting away wives - Deut 7:3, Ezra 10:2-4, 10-11, 19
- f. 7:14 - not salvation, but acceptability, legitimacy (perhaps among Jews) Acts 16:3
- g. Marrying expecting change is a bad idea; but marriage will change you
- h. If they are not pleased, seek peace (Rom 12:18, 14:19, 15:2) after all 1 Cor 7:32-33

3. 7:17-20 – Walking in God’s Calling

- a. We know about God’s calling: it’s not who you marry – Eph 4:1-4, 1 Cor 1:2,9, 26
- b. Walk how you received Christ Jesus – Col 2:6, 2:20-23
- c. The point: abide in the same calling – 7:17, 20, 7:24, 7:40, 7:8?
- d. Be content where you are at: difference between content/contention begins with I
- e. Paul’s teaching on circumcision is contrary to the law: Gen 17:4 vs. Gal 5:1-6, 6:15

4. 7:21-24 – Servants and Freemen

- a. Could be servant to an unsaved man, Jewish man, saved man, under law?
- b. Onesimus was a servant: Phm 16, they are instructed in 1 Tim 6:1, Titus 2:9
- c. 7:22 - We have a doctrine of liberty – Col 3:11, Gal 5:1
 - i. And, we have a responsibility to serve- 2 Cor 5:14-15, Titus 2:14
- d. “Bought with a price” like in 1 Cor 6:20; Use not your liberty Gal 5:13

5. 7:25-27 – Concerning Virgins

- a. They wrote about virgin commandments. Lev 21:13 is one.
- b. His judgment: “to be faithful”, to God, his wife, etc.. – 1 Cor 4:2, 4:17, 2 Tim 2:2
- c. “loosed from a wife” does not have to mean single, but could be unmarried 7:11