Two People

by Bill Crews

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But I firmly believe that the Bible teaches and that human nature and experience show that failure can be turned into success. Problems have solutions, as long as we believe in God and accept the Bible as His word. People can be convicted of sin, and repent and change. Bad habits can be broken, evil companions can be dropped, lives can be reformed, wounds can be healed, walls can give way to bridges, sins can be forgiven. Stubbornness can give way to reasonableness, harshness to tenderness, hatred to love, criticism to understanding.

One unfaithful brother said, "It looks like God has made a way to correct every mistake except one." He was referring to his marriage which he had decided had turned out to be a "mistake." His solution was to get a divorce and find someone else (truth be told, he had already found someone else while still married, someone he was working with, someone who led him to believe his first marriage was a "mistake"). According to **Matthew 5:31-32**, he had no scriptural grounds for divorce and neither he nor his first wife could marry again without sin. Back when he wanted to marry a woman who was not a Christian (his first wife), he wasn't ready to listen to anyone's advice. After his marriage, he had become weak and unfaithful as a Christian. When he became unhappy in his marriage, he sought no advice from fellow Christians nor God's solution (in His word) to his problem(?). And he wasn't ready to listen to anyone's advice after he had decided that his marriage was a "mistake."

Two people, then, can be what God wants them to be in marriage and realize and enjoy all the benefits. Or, one or both of them can dedicate themselves to making their marriage fail, but not without facing temporal and eternal consequences (here and hereafter). Marriage is to be had in honor among all (**Hebrews 13:4**) and regarded and treated as the sacred and divinely-originated relationship that it is.

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