

Selecting A Husband

by Micky Galloway

A sequel to last week's article, "Selecting A Wife" is certainly in order. Christian ladies must also be concerned with the question, "Who should I marry?" Again, let us ask God what qualities we should seek in a husband. The book of Proverbs is designed to help us in all the decisions of life. In the first few verses of Proverbs, we find the purpose of the book, "To know wisdom and instruction; to discern the words of understanding; to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness and justice and equity; to give prudence to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion: that the wise man may hear, and increase in learning; and that the man of understanding may attain unto sound counsels" (Proverbs 1:1-5). A good choice greatly enhances the life of the wife, but the wrong choice can destroy a woman from the inside out! It can contribute to a subdued life of misery and detriment to her children who are born of this union.

It is foolish to think that a mistake in this area can be easily corrected. Divorce is not an easy solution. God hates divorce (Malachi 2:16), and remarriage may not be a viable option. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 7:10-11, "But unto the married I give charge, (yea) not I, but the Lord, That the wife depart not from her husband (but should she depart, let her remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband); and that the husband leave not his wife." Matthew 19:8-9 says there is only one exception, "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and he that marrieth her when she is put away committeth adultery." When children come along, the selection you make will always be the father of your children, "for better or worse!"

Sometimes we think it is horrible to be single and alone. Indeed, it is a wonderful thing to be married to a godly man, who will lovingly lead, "even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it...", who will love you as his own body. "He that loveth his own wife loveth himself: for no man ever hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as Christ also the church" (Ephesians 5:25-29). Yet, it is better to be single and alone than to be married to the wrong man. With the help God gives us in "The Book of Proverbs," we can increase the likelihood of finding a good husband. Much of what was said in the previous article, "Selecting A Wife" is applicable, but there is more we can glean from the book of Proverbs.

Does he fear the Lord and put God first in every decision he makes? The man who fears the Lord is well on his way. "The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of knowledge; (but) the foolish despise wisdom and instruction" (Proverbs 1:8). It is so important when looking for a husband, to find a man who wants to go to heaven more than anything else.

How does he treat his parents? This is likely how he will treat you. Hear the Proverbs! Proverbs 6:20, "My son, keep the commandment of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother." Proverbs 15:20, "A wise son maketh a glad father; but a foolish man despiseth his mother." Proverbs 19:26, "He that doeth violence to his father, and chaseth away his mother, is a son that causeth shame and bringeth reproach." Proverbs 23:22, "Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old." Proverbs 30:11, "There is a generation that curse their father, and bless not their mother."

Will he listen to others or is he a "know it all?" Proverbs 12:15 says, "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes; but he that is wise hearkeneth unto counsel." Proverbs 23:9, "Speak not in the hearing of a fool; for he will despise the wisdom of thy words." Proverbs 28:26, "He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool; but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered." One must be willing to listen to the advice of wise men.

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