



RELIGION

Scripture of the Week:
Psalms 37:4



Love and Marriage . . . Hate And Divorce: Conclusion

by Mattie Ann Callier-Spears

So far, marriage, as a whole, has been an honorable estate. Instituted by God. Ordained by Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

Yes! Love is wonderful; but, hate is lying, in wait, on the other side of the coin. As humans, we are prone to allow ourselves to be led by our feelings--only. When this gigantic head-rush called "love" has been interrupted by what we think and feel is a violation of our marriage, we are ready for a divorce. You are apt to hear things like, "He is not the same person anymore," or "I don't know what is wrong with her--she just sits around and mopes all day long." Then, as an alternative, you hear those famous words, "Why don't we just get a divorce and get it over with?" Hmmm! Whatever happened to, "I promise to love, honor, obey, cleave only to her/him as long as we both shall live . . . to love and cherish in sickness and in health; for better or for worse; for richer or poorer?" Marriage is not something that you wear like a loose garment. Something you can remove when the mood hits you. As with a covering that becomes uncomfortable--too hot from heat, as in the summertime. "Wives fit in with your husbands' plans; for then if they refuse to lighten when you talk to them about the Lord, they will be won by your respectful, pure behavior. Your Godly life will

speaking better than your words." [I Peter, 3:1-2]. And then the Scripture speaks to the husband, "You husbands must take care of your wives, being thoughtful of their needs and honoring them as the weaker sex. Remember that you and your wife are partners in receiving God's blessings, and if you don't treat her as you should, your prayers will not get ready answers," [I Peter, 3:7]

Words of wisdom to both the husband and the wife: "You should be like one big happy family, full of sympathy toward each other, loving one another with tender hearts and humble minds. Don't repay evil for evil. Don't snap back at those who say unkind things about you. Instead, pray for God's help for them, for we are to be kind to others, and God will bless us for it.

If you want a happy, good life, keep control of your tongue. Guard your lips from telling lies. Turn away from evil and do good. Try to live in peace even if you must run after it to catch and hold it! For the Lord is watching his children, listening to their prayers; but the Lord's face is hard against those who do evil." [I Peter, 3:8-12]

Don't be envious of one another's gifts or abilities. God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings.

Pray ye one for another. In times of trouble, pray. In times of joy, PRAISE. In times of sorrow, pray. Never let there be an interruption in your prayer line to God.

There is a definite order in marriage. Number one--is God. Number two--is the husband. Number three--is the wife. Number four--are the children. Number five--is our church. If we could just remember this order of importance, in our marriage we would have fewer problems. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it . . ." [Ephesians 5:25]

Husbands, never withhold any good thing from your wives out of anger or envy. "But--if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." [I Timothy 5:8]

Wives, never withhold your bodies from your husbands and use your love as leverage. "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of

the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body." [Ephesians 5:22-23]

The Scriptures are packed full with answers to our every needs and problems. But . . . before they become unsurmountable--seek help from a Bible teaching, spirit-filled counselor or pastor or saint of God.

If you are just looking for someone to take sides with you, you will not resolve your problem. You will only add to it. Remember that you are ONE. The two of you must learn to put off the old selfish ways and think as WE. Whenever a situation arises, the question should be--"How will this affect us? Will my mate be happy with this decision? How would I feel if he/she did this to me?" If you are truthful, in your response, your decisions will be rewarding not only to you but to your spouse, as well. Just remember that you are not longer an individual, but you are now a UNIT. Yes! It means giving; but, it also means taking. Taking a lot of sudden mood changes. Taking your meals being cooked a little differently. Don't worry, she'll get it straight. Taking clothes being thrown about. Taking the little things in life that sometimes make you want to explode. If you have Jesus, in the right position in your marriage, you can make it. Husbands, you're the heavy. Yes!

Many of the burdens will fall on you. Why? Because--you are the head of the household. You are the head of the family. You are the head of your wife. When you said, "I do!", and the minister said, "I now pronounce you man and wife. What God has joined together let no man put asunder," prior to that announcement, you made a lot of promises. And now, God is going to hold you for it.

Wives, obey your husbands as Sarah, for instance, obeyed her husband Abraham, honoring him as head of the house. And if you do the same, you will be following in her steps like good daughters and doing what is right; then you will not need to fear or dishonor your husband.

Pray ye one for another. In times of trouble, pray. In times of joy, PRAISE. In times of sorrow, pray. Never let there be an interruption in your prayer line to God. In every good thing--give THANKS.

Remember to love and be loved, by one another. No one ever remains the same, physically. If you don't let your carnal self override your divine self, you will be able to weather a many storm with your spouse. An illness may cause your spouse to not be able to do the things with you as before. The illness may alter your spouse's appearance. This should not change the way

you love this person--remember your vows, ". . . in sickness and in health." If you are looking for a perfect person, I am very sorry for you. For, you will be very unhappy and disappointed. And, your disappointment and unhappiness will be self-induced.

The Golden Rule says, "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." We are certainly changing, with each passing day; so why should we have one set of rules for ourselves and another set of rules for our spouses? Be fair.

Get to know your woman. Get to know your man. Don't just have that carnal love, love one another as Christ loves us. For when that carnal love dissipates, let God's love take over and sustain you 'til the end of your days.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud, it is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight itself in evil, But rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, Always hopes, always perseveres. [Corinthians 13:4-7]

Appreciation Reception

One Church, One Child of Oregon will be honoring Don Frazier, former Minority Liaison Director of Children Services Division at an Appreciation Reception on Thursday, May 31, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Maranatha Church located at 4222 N.E. 12th.

Mr. Frazier was appointed Minority Liaison Director in 1985. In June of 1986, Mr. Frazier and Matt Farah, the Minority Adoption Specialist for

the state brought the One Church, One Child program to the attention of state administrators and pastors. The program was fully endorsed in May of 1988. On September 26, 1988, One Church, One Child of Oregon became a reality. Don Frazier is Minister of the Mt. Sinai Community Baptist Church and a member of One Church, One Child Board of Directors.



Gospel Concert To Lift Voices

Sunday, May 20, 1990 at 6:30 p.m., the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church's Jubilee Choir will present its annual gospel concert. There will be songs to satisfy all those who come to hear, enjoy, listen, clap their hands, to praise the Lord!

Come early for a good seat. Tapes will be sold immediately following the program. The concert is at 116 NE Schuyler, Portland, or call 284-1954; Ms. Tercita Hamilton, President and Dr. James E. Martin, Senior Pastor.

New Hope Celebrates 38th Year

The New Hope Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate its 38th anniversary on May 24, 25 and 27. On the 24 and the 25, services will begin at 7:00 p.m. The worship services will be conducted by guest churches from the community. On the 27th, the close-out service will begin at 3:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Robert Ranaway, pastor of the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church of Seattle,

Washington and Tabernacle's Mass Choir. The theme of the celebration is: A church built on a solid foundation [Isaiah 28:16].

The public is cordially invited to come out and join with the members of New Hope as they celebrate this joyous occasion.

Sharon Thornhill, is the Program Chairperson and Rev. Walter Brown is pastor.

Onward and nearer rides the sun of May;
And wide round, the marriage of the plants
Is sweetly solemnized. Then flows amain
The surge of summer's beauty . . .

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Allen Temple C.M.E. Church

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CHURCH SCHOOL: SATURDAY MORNING 9 A.M. TO 10 A.M.

BIBLE STUDY:

10:30 A.M. - 12 NOON - WEDNESDAY

6:30 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. - WEDNESDAY

Radio Ministry Each Sunday, 8:00 A.M. - KBMS

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Portland, Oregon 97211
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Phillip S. Nelson, Pastor



Psalm 34:3