

L83 | I Corinthians | Virgins, Singleness, and Marriage | I Cor. 7:32-40

I. Intro/Review:

- Paul's judgment of singleness
 1. :26-28 - present distress/trouble in flesh
 2. :29-31 - fashion of the world passeth away

II. Preview:

3. :32-35 - Carefulness of the Married

- Divided Cares
 - Lord
 - Spouse/Family

4. :39-40 - Permanent

- Father giving his daughter in marriage (:36-38)

III. Sermon:

3. Carefulness of the Married

{1Co 7:32-33} - But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: but he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife.

- "carefulness"; "careth"
 - Part of the fashion of this world that passeth away
 - Instituted by God as a temporary relationship for his temporary purposes and to point to the power of God.
 - Your marriage union is temporary, not eternal, but to point to the greater union between Christ and the church.
 - "**careful**" - thoughts, mind (distraction - calling attention in different directions; multiple things on mind)
 - **Php. 4:6-7** - "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ."
 - In everything you don't need to be "careful"
 - In everything your hearts and minds can be kept
- Ordinary "cares" that come along with marriage
 - Thinking about your spouse

- Family
 - Trips
 - Finances
 - Insurance
- Specific "cares" - the present distress and trouble in the flesh
 - **Mark 4:19 - "And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful."**
 - Can happen to the unmarried?
 - Can happen to the married?
 - Difference is the unmarried have one less care than the married
 - The issue is don't allow those things to choke the world
 - Issue in marriage - use your union to serve the Lord, as you serve and please each other.
 - **Luke 8:14 - "And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection."**
 - **Luke 21:34 - "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares."**

- Wife in gospels
- Cares of life in gospel
- Mary and Martha - Luke 10:38

{1Co 7:34} - There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

- The man/male/he in verse 32-33, now the woman/female/she in verse 34
- **"There is difference also between a wife and a virgin."**
 - **"The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit:"**
 - Romans 12:1
 - Romans 13 - love thy neighbour as thyself
 - 1 The. 4 - possess vessel in sanctification and honour
 - "in body and spirit" - picture of the union between Christ and the church
 - 1 Cor. 6:20 - "your body, and in your spirit"
 - 1 Cor. 7:4 - "hath not power of her own body...hath not power of his

own body"

- 1 Cor. 7:5 - "consent" - spirit, judgments together

- Unmarried you're not "consenting" with another you don't have that "care".

{1Co 7:35} - And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.

- Paul is writing this not to "cast a snare upon you" - oftentimes the text is treated as a snare
- He isn't saying you can't get married
 - 1 Tim. 4:1-3 - that would be a doctrine of a devil

{1Co 7:36} - But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry.

- Father arranged the marriage
 - Not only in Jewish culture, but in Roman society the parents chose the partners
 - Hagar selected a wife for Ishmael
 - Abraham selected a wife for Isaac
 - Judah selection of Tamar to be wife of his son Ur
 - Jacob told to go to what family
 - There was option
 - Rachel & Leah
 - The young man and woman had something to say about it
 - I Samuel 18:20 - Michael, Saul's daughter and David
- "let them marry" - give the consent that both party's want
- "and need so require" - she is desirous, she is burning, she wants a husband

{1Co 7:37} - Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, doeth well.

- "having no necessity" - lines up with "she...need so require"
 - The father has no necessity because she does not require it and he stands in his heart stedfast - he doeth well.

{1Co 7:38} - So then he that giveth her in marriage doeth well; but he that giveth her not in marriage doeth better.

- Summary

4. Permanent

{1Co 7:39} - The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord.

- The Pharisees doctrine of divorce was for any cause
- The Lord described the permanent nature of it
- "in the Lord"

{1Co 7:40} - But she is happier if she so abide, after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God.

IV. Conclusion: