Sacred Marriage

Wilson Adams · 2 Corinthians 7:1

INTRODUCTION

- Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
- Some translations render that perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

1 Symptoms or the Basic Control Module

2 Corinthians 7:1

- When it comes to marriage, I wonder sometimes how often we just focus on the symptoms rather than the basic control module.
- The basic control module for a Christian is a spiritual focus, it is a spiritual motivation.
- You're either going to be a God-centered spouse or you're going to be a spouse-centered spouse.
- I am called to love my wife out of reverence for God. Period.

2 Marriage Is Hard: It's Not About Me

- Because marriage is hard. It is hard.
- Romantic kind of love that we usually think of has no elasticity.
- I think the real purpose is to draw me closer to the one who brought us together.
- Your wife isn't God, and your husband isn't God, only God can fill that ache in your eternal soul.

3 God Connects His Relationship to People in Terms of Marriage

Isaiah 62:5; Jeremiah 3:8; Ephesians 5:22–33

- As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so God rejoices over you.
- Perhaps no place is the sacredness of this relationship seen with greater clarity than in Ephesians, the fifth chapter.
- Husbands love your wives just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her.
- How can we read passages like that and not have a deeper appreciation for holy matrimony?

4 Our Ambition Is to Be Pleasing to Him

2 Corinthians 5:9; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Corinthians 5:15

- Therefore, we also have as our ambition. Whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to him.
- Is marriage included in that? Or is marriage exempt from that?
- It's really not about your happiness as much as it is about what is it that makes God happy?
- He died for all so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but live for him.

5 The Ministry of Reconciliation

2 Corinthians 5:18; Romans 12:18

- If my marriage contradicts my message, then I have sabotaged the goal of my life.
- A marriage that is God honoring puts flesh on the picture of reconciliation.
- It models forgiveness, it models selfless love, and it models sacrifice.
- Your marriage will either be a stepping stone for the gospel, the ministry of reconciliation, or it will be a stumbling block.

6 You Marry God's Child

1 Peter 3:7

- Your spouse is not just your spouse, but that your spouse is God's daughter, that your spouse is God's son, that your spouse is God's child.
- He who touches you touches the apple of his eye.
- You are to show honor to her as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.
- He wants you to be as forgiving and patient with their faults as we want our kids' spouses to be with them.

THE CHALLENGE

May God help all of us focus on what is his will, and may we focus on pleasing him in all that we do, everything that we do, and understand that marriage is not exempt from that. Marriage is included in that.

MY NOTES