

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1073

September 27, 2015

“Glued” Marriages

Marriage is an institution sanctioned by God from the very beginning. Marriage is meant to be one woman and one man committed to each other for life, but many people’s perception of marriage is not at all like that which is presented in the Bible.

Couples often give up quickly when confronted with marital problems. Even before entering marriage many feel that if it does not work out, they will just divorce. According to the 1994 edition of *The World Almanac and Book of Facts* there were an estimated 2,362,000 marriages in 1992. Also that year there were 1,215,000 divorces granted.

In Ephesians 5:31 Paul writes, “*For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.*” The Greek word translated “joined” in this verse is η (proskollathasetai). This word is used four times in the New Testament (KJV). Twice it is translated “joined” (Acts 5:36;

Ephesians 5:31), and twice “cleave” (Matthew 19:5; Mark 10:7) Three of those occurrences refer to marriage. The first definition of this word in the Greek lexicon is “to glue upon” or “glue to.”

To solidify your marriage and hold it together make sure that it is based upon the Lord and Christian principles. Determine from the very beginning that it is for life. A love of and obedience to God and His word, as well as an allegiance of love and devotion to each other, will provide the “glue” that will keep you and your spouse together for life.

—Marty Edwards ❖

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Let No Man Despise You

In order to properly understand what God requires of us, we must first understand the words that make up the Bible. One passage that possibly has been misunderstood is Titus 2:15. In this passage, Paul gives an important command, the meaning of which has probably been overlooked by some. The command under consideration is, “*Let no man despise you.*”

On the surface, one might think this is an instruction similar to the one given to Timothy, “*Let no man despise your youth*” (I Timothy 4:12). But such is not the case. In I Timothy 4:12, the word “despise” (καταθρονεῖτω - katathroneito) literally means “to think down upon.” Paul was instructing the young evangelist, Timothy, to live in such a manner that none could look down upon him or think badly about him.

But in Titus 2:15, the word “despise” (περιφρονεῖτω - periphroneito) means something entirely different. In this passage, the word “despise” literally means “to think around.” Paul, in this passage, was instructing Titus to teach in such a manner that none could “out think him,” or “think circles around him.” That is quite a difference in the two passages that we may have never before noticed.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jean Coffey, Alice Thrasher, Steve Seaton and Shirley Parson. Clay Bozarth**, the father of Ruby Edwards, was hospitalized in Berryville, Arkansas most of last week with blood clots

in his lungs.

—We are planning to have our fall chili supper and bonfire on Sunday evening, October 18, at the home of **Mitch and Sandy Duncan**. Worship service will begin at 5:00 and supper will follow afterwards. ❖ Although the time changes on November 1, our evening services will return to 4:00 p.m. on November 8 until next March.

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Now that we possibly understand the command found in Titus 2:15 in a different light, how do we go about making sure that nobody “despises” us, or out thinks us? The only thing we can do is to get serious about Bible study. There are a myriad of false doctrines and philosophies that are attacking the church today. Therefore, we need to be equipping ourselves that we may “*war the good warfare*” (I Timothy 1:18). We need to become so familiar with the Scriptures that we are able to convince people of the validity of Christianity. We need to become so familiar with the Scriptures that we can present compelling reasons why one should want to walk closer to the Lord.

The best thing that Timothy, Titus, or any of us could do to command respect from unbelievers is to do the kind of thinking that will deserve it. As we commit ourselves to the task of spreading and defending the gospel of Christ, may the conclusions we reach be the result of logical and valid reasoning that cannot be refuted. —Steve Higginbotham❖

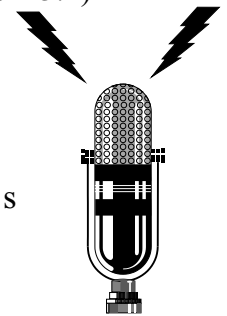
Sunday, September 20, 2015		
Classes	9	I Corinthians 14:29-40
Preaching	12	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Contribution	\$480.00	
Evening	23	Psalms 101:1-102:28
Wednesday, September 23, 2015		
Classes	23	Ezekiel 14:1-23

Bible Quiz

Even though which three men were in the land the LORD would not spare the people?

Last Week’s Answer— Foxes (Ezekiel 13:4)

Keep in mind that you can listen to our services live online or later since they are recorded. Details are found on the church’s website.



—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)