

V10 AFTER JESUS TEACHING ON DIVORCE WHICH WAS FAR STRICTER THAN HIS DISCIPLES EXPECTED THEY HAD LIVED ALL THEIR LIVES IN A SOCIETY WHERE DIVORCES WERE GRANTED FREELY

THEIR CONCLUSION GIVEN JESUS HIGH STANDARD WAS THAT IT WAS BETTER NOT TO MARRY JESUS HAD MADE HIS POINT

V11-12 JESUS HAD AFFIRMED THE PERMANENCE OF THE MARRIAGE COMMITMENT MARRIAGE WAS NOT SOMETHING TO BE ENTERED INTO LIGHTLY OR WITH THE EXPECTATION OF AN EASY OUT

JESUS ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT NOT EVERYONE COULD ACCEPT HIS WORD PEOPLE WHO CAN EXCEPT THE IDEA OF CELIBACY OVER THE RISK OF A MARRIAGE ENDING IN DIVORCE ARE TO THOSE TO WHOM IT HAS BEEN GIVEN

THIS REFERS TO THOSE ENABLED BY GOD TO REMAIN SINGLE WITHOUT GIVING IN TO SEXUAL TEMPTATION THEN JESUS GIVES THE VARIOUS REASONS THAT A PERSON MIGHT REMAIN CELIBATE

FIRST SUCH A PERSON MIGHT BE IMPOTENT FROM BIRTH SECOND A EUNUCH MIGHT BE A PERSON WHO WAS CASTRATED THIS WAS A COMMON PRACTICE FOR SLAVES OR SERVANTS IN JESUS DAY

THE THIRD CATEGORY WERE THOSE WHO CHOSE TO REFRAIN FROM MARRIAGE TO GIVE MORE ATTENTION TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN JESUS AND PAUL AND PROBABLY JOHN THE BAPTIST WERE EXAMPLES OF SUCH MEN 1COR 7:32-38

JESUS WAS NOT SAYING THAT CELIBACY WAS HOLIER THAN MATRIMONY OR THAT IT WAS A REQUIREMENT FOR KINGDOM MINISTRY YET HE DID NOTE THAT IT WAS A LIMITED CALLING AS PAUL AFFIRMED 1COR 9:5

V13 NEXT THERE WERE SOME CHILDREN BROUGHT TO JESUS THAT HE MIGHT LAY HIS HANDS ON THEM AND PRAY AND THE DISCIPLES REBUKED THEM THINKING THAT JESUS HAD NO TIME FOR CHILDREN

V14 BUT JESUS SAYS TO THEM LET THE CHILDREN ALONE AND DO NOT HINDER THEM FROM COMING TO ME FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE THEY WERE HUMBLE AND JESUS DESIRED TO BLESS THEM CHILDREN WERE IMPORTANT TO HIM AND THOSE WHO SHARE THE HUMILITY OF A CHILD MATT 18:2-4

THOSE WHO ADMIT THEIR DEPENDENCE ON CHRIST AND HIS FORGIVENESS WILL POSSESS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

V15 AFTER LAYING HIS HANDS ON THEM HE DEPARTED FROM THERE JESUS KEPT HIS EYES ON GOD'S PLAN AND PURPOSE FOR HIM AS THE SACRIFICIAL LAMB OF GOD HE CONTINUES ON HIS TREK TO THE CROSS

JESUS WAS A LAMB BEING LED TOWARD THE SLAUGHTER HE CAME TO DIE FOR OUR SINS GOD MADE JESUS WHO KNEW NO SIN TO BE SIN ON OUR BEHALF THAT WE MIGHT BECOME THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN HIM 2COR 5:21

WHEN WE COME TO UNDERSTAND HIS GRACE AND MERCY TOWARD US WE EXTEND THAT GRACE AND MERCY TOWARD OTHERS SALVATION CONFORMS US TO HIS IMAGE

WE ARE NO LONGER TRUSTING IN OURSELVES FOR SALVATION BUT IN HIS RIGHTEOUS WE HAVE PLACED OUR FAITH IN HIS WORK AND NOT IN OURS FOR OUR SALVATION

WE ARE NOT WORKING FOR SALVATION BUT FROM A HEART OF GRATITUDE WE ARE SERVING GOD BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE FOR US REALIZING THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS CHRIST DIED FOR US

WHETHER MARRIED OR SINGLE WE HAVE HUMBLED OURSELVES AS CHILDREN AND ARE TRUSTING IN HIS LOVE FOR US WE HAVE ADMITTED OUR DEPENDENCE ON HIM FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF OUR SINS

WE LOVE BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US 1JOHN 4:19`