

5 Questions Before You Get Married

Matthew 19:6, *“Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate...”*

Introduction: Once you are married, it's for life. So, you'd better make sure you've got the person God wants for you before you tie the knot. Consider 5 questions to ask before you get married...

I. Is This Person Biblically Eligible For Marriage?

- A. Most states' laws allow divorce for any reason or “no-fault” divorce.
- B. Yet, God's law and authority is not the same as state law and His authority must remain supreme (Matthew 5:32; 19:9; Mark 10:11-12; Luke 16:18).
- C. Before you enter that relationship make sure it is “in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 7:39; cf. Ephesians 6:1).

II. Is This Person a Christian?

- A. God wants us to learn from Old Testament examples (Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:11).
- B. So, what about Esau? Samson? Solomon (Genesis 26:34-35; 27:46; Judges 14:1-3; 16:4-5; 1 Kings 11:1-11)?
- C. We need to take these solemn warnings seriously (Amos 3:3; 1 Corinthians 15:33; 2 Corinthians 6:14).

III. Can You Foresee the Trials of a Spiritually Divided Marriage?

- A. Consider some of the possible problems in marrying a non-Christian...
 - 1. Attendance (Hebrews 10:24-25)
 - 2. Giving (2 Corinthians 9:7)
 - 3. Influence (1 Peter 3:7)
 - 4. Hospitality (Hebrews 13:2)
 - 5. Child-Rearing (Ephesians 6:1-4)
 - 6. Morality (1 Peter 4:1-5)
- B. Often, the result of having two standards are compromised standards!

IV. Is This Person A Strong Christian?

- A. Warning Signs of a weak Christian
 - 1. Two-faced (James 1:8)
 - 2. Lack of Spiritual Zeal (2 Pet 1:5-8)
 - 3. Lack of Self-Control (Proverbs 25:28)
- B. Some differences in judgment and personal weaknesses will arise in marriage that will need to be addressed.
- C. Yet, do not marry someone who is a moral, spiritual weakling and expect to have a happy, Christian home!

V. Are My Desires God's Desires?

A. Do Not Focus On...

1. Physical Attraction (Judges 14:1-3; Proverbs 11:22)
2. Wealth/Materialism (Proverbs 1:10, 19)
3. Fleeting Pleasures (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)

B. What type of person do you think Solomon, the “man who tried it all,” would recommend to you?

Conclusion: Without a strong mate, who is going to help pick us up when we are tempted to stray (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)?