

A Series of Devotions About Marriage Based on 1 Corinthians Chapter 7

GOD WILL BLESS YOU NO MATTER YOUR STATION IN LIFE

1 Corinthians 7:24 “. . .brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.”

“. . .godliness with contentment is great gain.” (1 Timothy 6:6) Even though these words address specifically the possession of the things of this world, they give insight into the station in life with which God has blessed you. You may think, or others may think that where you currently fit into the “pecking order” of society needs to change while in God’s sight you and all people are His created creatures. You do not have to make cosmetic changes nor go through some special initiatory activity in order to be His child. Jesus purchased and won you so that you, by God’s grace, are His son or daughter. (1 Corinthians 6:20)

In the early Christian church, during the time the Apostles were spreading the Gospel, individuals followed them insisting that the new believers in Jesus had to adopt the practices of Judaism, especially the circumcision of all males, following dietary laws, etc. There were also those who taught that through Jesus liberating sinners from God’s condemnation they also should no longer remain in subservient social positions such as household servants and the like.

These voices continue to speak within the Christian church. The Social Gospel movement in the mid to late 1900’s proclaimed that Jesus came in order to lift people out of poverty, menial jobs and the like. Here in 1 Corinthians 7:18-24, Paul reminded the people in Corinth and reminds us today to be content with the station in life we occupy. No matter your station in life, whoever you are, wherever you work and live you do so as God’s child and to His glory. In our station in life, we are followers of Jesus to witness to those around us that He came to save all of us from God’s punishment of our sins and lead us to eternal life in heaven.

1 Corinthians 7:20 says, “Each person should remain in the situation they were in when God called them.” What matters is not your station in life but the faith and trust you have been given in Jesus Christ. Physical, social, financial changes may

or may not happen to you. What matters is the change the Holy Spirit worked in you when He called you by the Gospel to your faith in Jesus Christ.

Prayer: Lord, You have chosen me to be Your very own child. You have placed me in this world to be Your witness through my daily life. Cause me to be content, whatever my station in life, knowing that You are my God and I am Your child. In Jesus' name. Amen.

What is the world to me With all its vaunted pleasures
When You, and You alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord, My soul's delight shall be;
You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!

The world seeks to be praised And honored by the mighty
Yet never once reflects That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize Above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone. What is the world to me!

The world seeks after wealth And all that mammon offers
Yet never is content Though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good, Content with it I'll be;
My Jesus is my wealth. What is the world to me!

What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure,
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my pleasure.
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss eternally.
Once more, then, I declare: What is the world to me!
(LSB 730)