

Angie's Marriage Column – December 19, 2007

Remarriage to Husband's Best Friend: Is there Forgiveness?

Question: Dear Angie, I do need desperate help. I had an affair with my best friend's husband. We were both married; however, I was going through a divorce before he kissed me. ... We have pleaded with God to forgive us for what we have done, I have gone to many friends and asked their forgiveness and they have forgiven me, but, many other people say that we are just doing it because we got what we wanted. I know that it is hard to believe, but it is our desire to serve God and get right with him, we have been praying together now and trying to pick up the pieces, and our marriage.

Guidance: Well, I think I'm going to get a few enemies with this one. I don't know how I can help you, really. I believe you are both still married to your first husband and wife, so any guidance or marriage support I offer you would be going against my own beliefs of "until death do you part". I am sorry about your situation and I wish I could tell you something to make you "feel" better about your new marriage, but unfortunately, I cannot. I truly believe that this is between you, your new husband and God. Pray about it and God will reveal to you what you should do.

I am not justifying getting remarried when I say this, but rather than hurt any more people, I would strive really hard to get it right the second time around by supporting your whole marriage on God's Word. Bring God's principles into your marriage and learn how to love according to principled acts of love rather than the need to "feel" good with every situation. In other words, LOVE because you are committed to the relationship no matter what, but don't love because you are needing to be loved back for a feeling. Don't let marital difficulties hinder your love.

These things I command you, that ye love one another. (John 15:17 KJV)

Marriage is never going to be the idealic fairy tale romance you read about and see in movies, it will have problems! And without God directing your thoughts and actions, you will ultimately lead yourself down the wrong path to how the world handles their marriage.

I do know this much, if for any reason a person does get a divorce from their first spouse, they are both, according to scripture to remain single, unless either spouse dies, and even then scripture says it is best to remain single. Why do you think that is?

And unto the married I COMMAND, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband and let not the husband put away his wife. (1 Corinthians 7:10,11 KJV)

God Hates (Divorce) Putting Away

And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth. For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth (divorce) putting away; for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: Therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously. (Malachi 2: 15,16 KJV)

Why do you think God hates divorce so much? Our marriage belongs to God, that's why. When we break the marriage covenant we are breaking a spiritual bond with God. When a man and a woman get married they become ONE in flesh and in spirit, which I believe unites them in spirit with God. Divorce breaks our spiritual purpose and commitment of being united with God.

“Guard yourself in your spirit and do not deal treacherously” means to have the same commitment to your marriage that God has to His promise for his people. That is the biblical analogy. If you trust in God enough to know that he will do what he promises, than why not trust Him enough with your marriage?

God has promised us many things; eternal life for the believer is the most important promise God has given us. The second half of the book of Isaiah is devoted to the promise of our salvation. Isaiah wrote about the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, and the man who would announce his coming, John the Baptist.

THE beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger (John the Baptist) before thy face, which shall prepare the way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness. Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.
“(Mark 1:2,3 KJV)

God's promises to us are what a Christ One bases his whole life on. We repent of our sins because we believe Gods promise of salvation. By having faith enough that what God says is true *is* having complete trust in God. We commit ourselves to our marriage and devote ourselves to our spouse because we believe that marriage is a commitment of a lifetime.

As a Christian we should be trusting in God for all of our needs by learning to be content in every situation because of God's promises to us. We ought to be more grateful for the person we are married to and stop focusing on something or someone else outside of our marriage to bring us peace and contentment. Choosing to work on marriage rather than divorce is God's will for our lives.

As Christ Ones are we relying on receiving peace, security and contentment from God? He is our source! The secret for contentment even in a marriage of discontent is to draw on the power of Christ for our troubles rather than outside sources. We have been promised that God *will* provide for us and God will give us what we need.

It may seem as if divorce is the only way out at times, but if you truly look at it from a spiritual standpoint and meditate on all that God has blessed us with and compare that unconditional love to the superficial love of the flesh, you will see how divorce is never a way out.

I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and SUFFER NEED, I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. (Philippians 4:12,13 KJV)

In Christ,
Frank and Angie
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