

One28 Spring Retreat: Worthy of His Name



A BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF SINGLENES



Selected Scriptures
March 26th, 2021

A Biblical Theology of Singleness

1. Who is a Person?
2. Procreation, Marriage and Offspring in Genesis
3. God's People, His Covenant, Their Failure and His Promise
4. Singleness and the NT
 1. Jesus's Statements
 2. Paul's Vision

A Biblical Theology of Singleness

1. Who is a Person?



A person's a person,
no matter how
small.

-Dr. Seuss

1. Who is a Person?

“What makes a person a person is that he or she is a human being. A human being created in the image of God.”

1. Who is a Person?

Genesis 1:27 (NASB95)

“God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him;
male and female He created them.”

1. Who is a Person?

James 3:8–9 (NASB95)

⁸But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison.

⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God;

2. Procreation, Marriage and Offspring in Genesis

Genesis 1:22 (NASB95) - Procreation

God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”

2. Procreation, Marriage and Offspring in Genesis

Genesis 2:18 (NASB95) – Marriage

Then the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.”

2. Procreation, Marriage and Offspring in Genesis

Genesis 3:15 (NASB95) – Offspring

And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

2. Procreation, Marriage and Offspring in Genesis

- ▶ Procreation
- ▶ Marriage
- ▶ Offspring
- ▶ Abraham and His Offspring

2. Procreation, Marriage and Offspring in Genesis

Genesis 12:1–3 (NASB95)

1Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father’s house, To the land which I will show you;

2And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing;

3And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”

2. Procreation, Marriage and Offspring in Genesis

- ▶ Procreation
- ▶ Marriage
- ▶ Offspring
- ▶ Abraham and His Offspring
 - ▶ Promise Repeated for Isaac (Gen. 26:2-6,24) and Jacob (Gen. 28:13-15; 25:10-12)

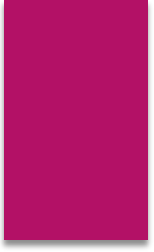
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3. God's People, His Covenant, Their Failure and His Promise

▶ The Sinai Covenant (Exodus 19-24)

- ▶ Offspring and Promise Implications (Deut. 7:11–14; 22:28–29 ; 28:1–4, 11, 15-18, 18-21 and 62-63)



“To marry and have offspring was, to an individual, a mark of God’s covenantal blessing and by extension a validation of his obedience to the covenant stipulations. Conversely, to be devoid of children with the result of having one’s name “blotted out” of Israel was a mark of his subjection to the covenant curses and by implication a sentence of divine disapproval.”

Dr. Barry Danylak, *Redeeming Singleness: How the Storyline of Scripture Affirms the Single Life* (61).

3. God's People, His Covenant, Their Failure and His Promise

▶ The Sinai Covenant (Exodus 19-24)

▶ Offspring and Promise Implications (Deut. 7:11–14; 22:28–29 ; 28:1–4, 11, 15-18, 18-21 and 62-63)

▶ Offspring and Name

▶ Singleness in the OT



Jeremiah 16:1–4 (NASB95)

¹The word of the LORD also came to me saying,

²“You shall not take a wife for yourself nor have sons or daughters in this place.”

³For thus says the LORD concerning the sons and daughters born in this place, and concerning their mothers who bear them, and their fathers who beget them in this land:

⁴“They will die of deadly diseases, they will not be lamented or buried; they will be as dung on the surface of the ground and come to an end by sword and famine, and their carcasses will become food for the birds of the sky and for the beasts of the earth.”



2 Kings 21:9 (NASB95)

But they did not listen, and Manasseh seduced them to do evil more than the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the sons of Israel.

3. God's People, His Covenant, Their Failure and His Promise

- ▶ The Sinai Covenant (Exodus 19-24)
 - ▶ Offspring and Promise Implications (Deut. 7:11–14; 22:28–29 ; 28:1–4, 11, 15-18, 18-21 and 62-63)
- ▶ Offspring and Name
- ▶ Singleness in the OT
- ▶ God's Promises Do Not Fail



Isaiah 6:13 (NASB95)

“Yet there will be a tenth portion in it, And it will again be subject to burning, Like a terebinth or an oak Whose stump remains when it is felled. The holy seed is its stump.”



Isaiah 7:14 (NASB95)

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.



Isaiah 8:8,10 (NASB95)

“Then it will sweep on into Judah, it will overflow and pass through, It will reach even to the neck; And the spread of its wings will fill the breadth of your land, O Immanuel.

“Devise a plan, but it will be thwarted; State a proposal, but it will not stand, For God is with us.”



Isaiah 9:6 (NASB95)

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.



Isaiah 8:8,10 (NASB95)

“Then it will sweep on into Judah, it will overflow and pass through, It will reach even to the neck; And the spread of its wings will fill the breadth of your land, O Immanuel.

“Devise a plan, but it will be thwarted; State a proposal, but it will not stand, For God is with us.”



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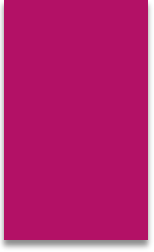
▶ Singleness in the OT

▶ God's Promises Do Not Fail



Galatians 3:16 (NASB95)

Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as referring to many, but rather to one, “And to your seed,” that is, Christ.



“The true offspring of Abraham are no longer defined physically through ethnic identity but spiritually through their union with Christ through faith. Moreover, as Abraham offspring and heirs, they can anticipate receiving an inheritance – again, not a physical piece of real estate but a spiritual inheritance, one that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading and kept in heaven (1 Pet. 1:4).

The essence of this paradigm shift represented by the very core of the Christian Gospel has profound implications for all areas of life, including how we as Christians understand marriage and procreation. For whereas marriage and physical procreation were the necessary means of building the physical nation of Israel, the spiritual people of God are built through the process of spiritual regeneration.

Moreover, whereas marriage and physical procreation were necessary for maintaining one's physical inheritance for the next generation, they are not necessary for preserving one's spiritual inheritance within eternal kingdom of God. Christ is thus the promised offspring and also the heir of the promised inheritance, bringing God's blessings to nations. It is this offspring of God, whom Isaiah so vividly depicts – the shoot and the root of Jesse- who brings this blessing to the world not by means of power and positing but through his sacrificial death as the Suffering servant of the Lord.”

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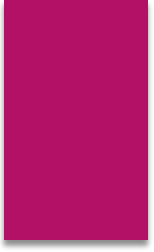


Matthew 19:10–12 (NASB95)

10The disciples said to Him, “If the relationship of the man with his wife is like this, it is better not to marry.”

11But He said to them, “Not all men can accept this statement, but only those to whom it has been given.

12“For there are eunuchs who were born that way from their mother’s womb; and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men; and there are also eunuchs who made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who is able to accept this, let him accept it.”



Luke 20:34–36 (NASB95)

34 Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage,
35 but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage;
36 for they cannot even die anymore, because they are like angels, and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.



Matthew 28:19–20 (NASB95)

19“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
20teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

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1 Corinthians 7:7 (NASB95)

Yet I wish that all men were even as I myself am. However, each man has his own gift from God, one in this manner, and another in that.



1 Corinthians 7:32–35 (NASB95)

32But I want you to be free from concern. One who is unmarried is concerned about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord;

33but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife,

34and his interests are divided. The woman who is unmarried, and the virgin, is concerned about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and spirit; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

35This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord.



1 Corinthians 4:14–15 (NASB95)

14 I do not write these things to shame you, but to admonish you as my beloved children.

15 For if you were to have countless tutors in Christ, yet you would not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

Our Response

1. God is in control of all of your life, even your life as a single.
2. Thank God for the season of singleness that you are in.
3. Get involved in the life of the church, seeking to spiritually impact those that God has placed in your path here.

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