

Division in the Body

1 Corinthians 7:1-17

An area where division had occurred in the Church at Corinth was in the matter of _____.
Paul writes to clarify some ongoing issues.

I. Instructions concerning marriage Vs 1-17

A. Marriage vs remaining single Vs 1-6

1. Paul's _____ thoughts on the matter of marriage Vs 2-6
 - a. _____ physical and sexual needs are to be met in the marriage Vs 2
 - b. The husband and wife should concern themselves with meeting each other's needs Vs 3-4
 1. Render-give, _____, pay Vs 3
 2. Due benevolence-the good will and love they _____ as your mate Vs 3
 3. Hath not power-is not in _____ Vs 4
 - c. The _____ reason for withholding sexual relationship is to give one's self to fasting and pray Vs 5
 1. This is by consent of _____ the husband and wife
 2. This is to be only for a short period
 - d. Paul clearly states this is his suggestion, not a command from the Lord Vs 6
2. Paul's thoughts on the matter of _____ single Vs 1, 7-8
 - a. A celibate life is not a _____ thing Vs 1
 - b. God has not made every man the same concerning _____ Vs 7 (Cf. Mt 19:12)
 - c. If humanly and physically possible, remain unmarried, if not- _____ Vs 8

B. Counsel to the _____ Vs 10-17

1. Instruction from the _____ Vs 10-11
 - a. It is best the married couple _____ divorce Vs 10b-11a
 - b. If divorce does occur, it would be better the couple _____ to each other than to marry someone else Vs 11b
2. Instruction from Paul concerning a _____ marriage-Saved and unsaved mates Vs 12-13
 - a. Believers should not divorce their _____ mate
 - b. If the unbelieving mate _____ to remain in the marriage
3. Reasoning behind remaining in a mixed marriage Vs 14, 16
 - a. The unbelieving mate is "sanctified" by the believing mate Vs 14a
 1. The believing mate was a _____ of God's blessing in the marriage
 2. God could work in the marriage through the believer if they are a _____ testimony to the unbelieving mate
 - b. The children are greatly _____ by the union in the mixed marriage Vs 14b
 - c. The believing mate can play a great part in the _____ of the unbelieving mate and the children Vs 16
4. Instruction when the unbelieving mate chooses _____ to remain in the marriage Vs 15

- a. If the unbelieving mate leaves the marriage and divorces-_____ them
_____ Vs 15a
- b. Under such conditions the believing mate is not held in bondage Vs 15b
 - 1. Bondage-_____, held in bondage to the breakup of the marriage
 - 2. This seems to indicate that in such cases the believing spouse who has been _____ by their unbelieving spouse is _____ to remarry
- 3. Summary Vs 17
 - a. Considering what has just been shared understand that God _____ each situation
 - b. Therefore, submission to what God _____ is necessary on the believer's part

II. Instruction for widows (and widowers) Vs 39-40

- A. The wife (and husband) is to _____ married to their mate as long as they are _____ Vs 39a
- B. After the _____ of the mate, they are free to remarry, but only to another _____ Vs 39b
- C. Paul's opinion was that the spouse who was still alive would be _____ if they remained unmarried Vs 40
 - 1. This was the opinion of _____ Vs 40a
 - 2. In this opinion, Paul believed he had the influence of _____ upon his thinking Vs 40b
 - 3. This did not mean if the remaining spouse did remarry that they would be committing _____-this was Paul's opinion, not a direct command of the Lord