

# Marriage, Home, and Family

Biblical Tools for Selecting a Spouse

Part 4

# From God's Side

1. The Bible is our most reliable source of information about what God wants for us
  - A. 2Pe 1:18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. 2Pe 1:19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

- B. Dreams, visions, signs, and wonders have been rare, and “concentrated”
  - I. Moses
  - II. Elijah
  - III. Jesus
  - IV. Each of these preceded the major portions of the writing of Scripture: in the Bible, signs and wonders always serve to validate the Word
- C. The Bible contains commands and prohibitions: things clearly to be obeyed
- D. The Bible contains precepts and wisdom
  - A. Proverbs 21.19
- E. So that the decision making process between marrying an unbeliever and someone who gets angry are vastly different processes

# From our side

1. Seek to do God's will, focusing on the "big picture" of God's will first
  - A. It is God's will that people get married and have children so they can full the mission given to mankind.
  - B. It is God's will for people to glorify Him by loving their spouse, and raising their children, and I would argue that this is more important Biblically than "who." Remember, those commands about marriage are given to people who had little or no choice about their marriage.

2. Don't be hasty in making important decisions

A. Ecclesiastes 5.2

3. But neither be bound by fear

A. God is not going to tell you all that could happen

B. To refuse to act, out of fear, is to fail to trust the Lord

4. Do not assume that "God's will" will be evident by the lack of opposition and obstacles

A. I Corinthians 16.9

B. Philippians 1.12-13

C. I Thessalonians 2.18

5. Be careful (seek wisdom) about interpreting circumstances
  - A. Some are obvious: unbelievers, gender roles
  - B. Others are not.
  - C. The fact that things “pop-up” should not give them extra weight as “from God,” since temptations also “pop-up.” James 1
  - D. The reality is, that the only reason we’re facing a decision is because of a circumstance
6. Remember that every marriage partner is a sinner