

THE GIFT OF ONE SINGLE LIFE

*(NASB) "You shall take with you of every clean animal by **sevens**, a male and his female; and of the animals that are not clean two, a male and his female;*

We have all heard the story of Noah and the Ark and it is always presented that the animals came two by two. However, the scripture actually says that only the unclean animals came two by two. It says the clean animals came in sevens. The unclean animals came male and female. The clean animals came male and female except for the seventh clean animal! There was no mate for the seventh animal. Why did this seventh not have it's mate? It had a higher calling! It was called to worship God!

*Gen 8:20 And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and **took of every clean animal**, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.*

Here we see that the seventh animal was a sacrifice unto God. Seven in the Bible speaks of completion or perfection. These seven clean animals represented the Lord Jesus Christ in his perfect life. The seventh lone clean animal given in sacrifice speaks of the spotless sacrifice and death of Christ in behalf of the unclean.

I think we forget that Jesus was not only God but also a man. He had desires and feelings like any other man. He was tempted in all points as all men are but without sin. Jesus did not come in His earthly body to have a natural marriage with natural children. He came to die for all of us "unclean" ones who would answer the call to enter the Ark of salvation. Jesus could have shrugged off His calling and married and had children but he sanctified Himself as a single gift unto God. Although, Jesus lived and died as a single man, He knew He would one day marry a glorious bride, the Church.

Jesus showed us the power of a single life lived for God and given to God. As Jesus did, you as a single person have a wonderful gift to give. It is giving yourself to God as a living sacrifice in worship to Him that he is glorified. Even though you yourself know that one day God has a glorious marriage for you, you are single right now. Right now as a single you have a lofty calling. You are called to worship God in

undistracted devotion. You have the high calling of a worshipper before God.

1Co 7:32 *But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord:*

1Co 7:35 *And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.*

Many look at their single state as something to be delivered from. The Lord wants to you to profit during your period of singleness. You can only profit from the Lord as you attend upon the Lord. Don't let people, things, or even your own flesh get in the way of your devotion to God. God has a great plan for you. He has promised to give you the desires of your heart. (Ps. 37:4)

God wants to bless you more than you desired to be blessed, however, he wants your devotion most of all. This is where you truly profit the most and puts you in a place that he can bless you and that blessing not hurt you but truly profits you. Isaac in the Old Testament is an example of this. Isaac did not search out a bride for himself. The servant of his Father did the searching for his bride. What did Isaac do instead of anxiously searching and looking for his bride?

Gen 24:63 *Isaac went out to meditate in the field toward evening; and he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, camels were coming.*

Gen 24:64 *Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac she dismounted from the camel.*

Gen 24:65 *She said to the servant, "Who is that man walking in the field to meet us?" And the servant said, "He is my master." Then she took her veil and covered herself.*

Isaac's attention was not on the horizon looking for his wife, his eyes were upon his God. He meditated on the Lord. As he was devoting himself to God, he happened to look up and saw the camels coming with his bride. Guys, you camels are coming, but keep focused upon God and being satisfied in him! Ladies, you are on a

journey to your spouse. The Holy Spirit is leading you. Keep focused on following your Lord. Both Isaac and Rebekah eyes were lifted up to see each other. Likewise there will be a day when the eyes of you and your spouse will be lifted up to see the goodness of the Lord and the person He has sent you. Until then you have the one who is fairer than ten thousand. You have the Savior. He longs for your presence. He longs that you give him the gift that has been given to you- the gift of a single life given to Him.

Prayer: Lord, thank you for this time that I am single. I give my life and dreams to you. I am yours. I desire my life bring you glory and honor. I pray that you help me be undistracted and serve you in a way that pleases you. I will not despise being single any longer. I give to you my singleness as a gift of worship to you. Lord, I know you see the desires of my heart. I know that you promised to give me the desires of my heart. As I draw near to you make my heart your heart, and give me your desires. Thank you for blessing my life today.