## INTERNATIONAL RADIO & INTERNET

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### II. Other Languages

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### INTERNET: www.media.heraldsofhope.org

English, Mandarin, Spanish, Nepali - 24/7

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“HOPE HERALD
Volume XXXVIII

“I Hope in Thy word.”
Psalm 119:81

HERALDS OF HOPE
CIRCLING THE GLOBE WITH THE GOSPEL

www.heraldsofhope.org
WE BELIEVE

1. There is only One True Holy God
2. The Bible is the Self-revelation of God to mankind
3. The Triune God is the Creator of all things, visible and invisible
4. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was born of the Virgin Mary
5. The Holy Spirit was sent at Pentecost
6. The Church is composed of all who truly repent of sins
7. The Christian Life is total commitment to the Lordship of Christ
8. There is a personal Devil who is the arch-enemy of God
9. There will be a bodily return of Jesus Christ
10. There will be the final Judgment

Table of Contents

With The President - What is Truth? pg. 3
Treasures of Truth - Who Can be Saved? pg. 4
Editorial - Our Tabernacles pg. 6
Moses: God’s Man for the Time - Part II pg. 26

Questions on I Corinthians 1-8 Answers pg. 9-16
Sermons from I Corinthians 1-8 pg. 16-17

Mutual Dependency in Marriage pg. 8
Mutual Responsibility in Marriage pg. 20
Guidance in Marriage pg. 23

Prayer and Praise pg. 30

sus! Undergird every Messianic witness reaching Jewish people in many countries.

16. Bless God For courageous believers in Muslim countries! Ask Him to bring their leaders and fellow citizens to the Gospel.

17. Magnify the Lord for the outreach of TWR on Bonaire! Ask Him to meet listener needs in the increased coverage of Latin America and the Caribbean in English/Spanish.

18. Rejoice that God is the Sovereign Controller of History! Ask Him to use the current turmoil in the Middle East for His glory and the salvation of many.

19. Magnify the Lord for the blessings of the printed page! Pray God to increase and protect Christian literature in various languages and take the Word to the unreached.

20. Bless the Lord for Galcom making solar powered radio receivers, stations, etc! Intercede for this Canadian company furnishing thousands of radio receivers around the world. (www.galcom.org)

21. Thank God for revealing the radio secrets to our world! Pray His anointing on our HOPE messages translated into Guarani and aired from local stations in Paraguay.

22. Praise God for unnumbered answers to prayer! Pray for effectiveness of many weekly HOPE programs in Nepal.

23. Thank God, He does know all our needs and can supply! Seek His face for Gospel ministries needing literature, equipment, buildings, funds, and personnel for follow-up.

24. Praise the Lord that Jesus Is stronger than the enemy! Ask God to teach Christians how to resist the devil and avoid evil, how to use the blood and the name of Jesus in the conflict with evil.

25. Magnify the Lord for His abundant and effective grace! Pray that grace upon both producers and listeners of the Arabic HOPE program to the Muslim Middle East each Saturday evening.

26. Thank God for increased education in emerging countries! Ask Him For Christian materials and Christian teachers for all ages, especially the youth, everywhere.

27. Rejoice that Gospel radio reaches into prisons! Pray for prison witnesses and prisoners seeking Spiritual help and rehabilitation.

28. Bless God for brave believers in Jesus among Muslims! Ask Him to shelter and nurture seeking Muslims coming to faith in Jesus.

29. Rejoice in the gracious ministry of the Holy Spirit! Pray for His work of revival to increase and touch every church and nation.

30. Thank God for growing Christian witness in West Africa! Pray for His anointing upon Christian leaders in Nigeria, and every other country.

31. Magnify the Lord for the Blessed HOPE--Resurrection or Rapture! Seek His Spirit to keep His remnant ready, you and your family.
With The President

WHAT IS TRUTH?

What is truth? That was the question of Pilate as Jesus stood accused before him. How would you define truth? Just recently, I heard a definition that I really like. Truth is, “Reality from God’s point of view.”

According to II Thessalonians 2:13 God chooses to save those who BELIEVE the truth! This belief is the conviction respecting man’s relationship to God and divine things, generally with the included idea of trust and holy fervor born of faith and joined with it. So belief is not mere mental assent.

The Gospel calls upon us to accept by faith things that we cannot reason out in our minds. That doesn’t mean the Gospel is illogical, it just means the Gospel transcends human logic and understanding. Belief in the truth of God’s Word is not a blind leap of faith into the dark! It is the reasoned assurance that because God has revealed Himself to mankind in a multitude of ways, He is able to orchestrate the circumstances of my life in a way that glorifies Him and benefits me and others.

The wonderful thing about resting in truth is this: if we learn to do it now we can experience it throughout all eternity! Jesus said “Come to me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest to your souls,” Matthew 11:28, 29.

I urge you, believe the truth. Test it; try it, practice it and you will find it trustworthy. Make it your goal to retain truth; to guard it carefully and pass it on to others in the way it’s been passed on to you. And finally, rest in the truth. God’s promises are sure and secure.

Learn to love the truth, and respond to it in these positive ways. If you do this, you can be confident in the promise of Jesus; “...the one who endures to the end, shall be saved.”

Sincerely in the Hope of the Gospel,

J. Mark Horst, President
HERALDS OF HOPE, INC.
A ruler of rank came to Jesus with a burden on his mind. He asked Jesus, “What shall I do to inherit eternal life?” In answer Jesus quoted the commandments given to Moses: “Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor thy father and thy mother.”

The man said he had kept them all. Then Jesus told him to go, sell what he had, give to the poor, come and follow Him.

It was too much for the man. He was very sorrowful. Jesus said it is very hard for the rich to enter the kingdom of God. He said it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. The people asked, “Who then can be saved?” (Luke 18:18-27.)

Now we must find the answer to that question. The first place to look is John 3:16, “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

The important word is “whosoever.” The only limitation is in the word “believe.” We first look at the words of Jesus.

In the Sermon on the Mount, He said, “Whosoever, therefore shall break one of these least commandments...” Matthew 5:19. Here the word “whosoever” takes in anyone and everyone. Farther on He said, “Whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire,” Matthew 5:22. Again the word is inclusive, and means each and all.

In Matthew 16:25 Jesus said, “For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.”

Matthew 20:26, 27: “...whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister, and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant.”

Mark 8:34: “...whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”

Luke 12:8: “Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him will the Son of man also confess before the angels of God.”

John 8:34: “Jesus answered them, Verily, verily I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.”

In these words of Jesus there can be no reasonable doubt that whosoever includes anyone and everyone.

Let us now see how the Apostles used the word “whosoever.”

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, anointed by the Holy Spirit, quoted from the prophet Joel: “And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved,” Acts 2:21. The door to salvation is open to
all who call on the name of the Lord.

When Peter spoke to the people gathered in the house of Cornelius, he said of Jesus, “To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His name whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins,” Acts 10:43.

Thus the “remission of sins” (forgiveness) is for anyone and everyone who believes in Jesus.

Paul, addressing the congregation in the synagogue in Antioch in Pisidia concluded his message this way, “And by Him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses,” Acts 13:39. While Paul did not use “whosoever” the words “all that believe” carry the same meaning. The only limitation lies in the word “believe.”

Emphasizing the truth that the gospel is for all, Paul wrote to the Romans, “For the Scripture saith, whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved,” Romans 10:11-13.

No difference between Jew and Gentile means no difference in the plan of God for their forgiveness of sin. Earlier in Romans, Paul made it equally plain that all are in need of divine grace provided in Jesus Christ, God’s Son. “Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets: Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God,” Romans 3:19-25.

We must understand that the grace of God provided in the Gospel of Christ is made necessary by the righteous justice of God and is available to all, for all have sinned.

The way to receive forgiveness is by the door of faith. All the promises of God are released to anyone who believes God’s word. Amen.

The answer to our question, “Who can be saved?” is simply stated in Romans 10:13, “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Your salvation, then, rests with you. God has made the provision and the promise. You need to believe and you can be saved. Amen!

J. Otis Yoder

J. Mark Horst
Our Tabernacles

When God led His people out of bondage in Egypt, He camped them at the foot of an impressive mountain. He gave their leader the pattern to build a tent of meeting. God wanted to be close to His people. A tent of meeting was His thought, a portable sanctuary, a tabernacle.

He designed every detail and set all the parts together in harmony to remind them that a Holy God could dwell only among holy people. He placed Cherubim over the mercy seat on the ark of the covenant in the innermost chamber protected from unholy eyes by a beautiful heavy veil. Next to that Most Holy Place He put the altar of incense which speaks of prayer, fragrant response ascending heavenward. In that Holy Place on either side He placed the lampstand and the table of bread which speak of light and nourishment essential to life. This holy chamber also was protected by heavy curtains.

Spread over these holy chambers were coverings of skins reminding us how God clothed Adam and Eve. This inner tent was placed centrally in a much larger courtyard surrounded with heavy curtains hanging from bars between posts. God was protecting His holy tent of meeting from unholy eyes.

There are unique parallels between God's highest creation, man, made after His image and likeness and God's tent of meeting. The tabernacle had three distinct parts blended into a sanctuary where God met man, where man met God. Man has three distinct parts, spirit, soul and body, blended into a being in which God wants to abide. The body like the outer court touches the world, relates to the rest of creation, all the while protecting the soul and spirit within. The inner chambers, the Holy and Most Holy Places, parallel the soul and spirit of man.

The Holy Place, with its lamp and bread, light and truth, was the place of worship and fellowship. So in man's soul, the heart, is the place of real worship and fellowship, prayer like incense blending them together. Just as the mercy seat covered the ark of the covenant, so in our innermost beings, our spirits, we experience the mercy of God in the forgiveness of our sins and here we covenant with God to be His little tabernacles where He can abide.

When the tabernacle in the wilderness was completed, then Moses took the blood of a sacrifice and sanctified every piece of the tabernacle furnishings, every vessel to minister the offerings, even the priests in their priestly garments; everything was sanctified by blood, set apart as holy for the pleasure and presence of the Holy God.

God liked what He saw. He came down in Shekinah glory and abode on the tabernacle. Join the redeemed people camped around the tent of meeting this group of complaining, rebellious people. Great leaders are those who have a servant’s heart and desire God's best for those under their care. Moses certainly met these criteria.

Arriving at Mt. Sinai, Moses was commanded by God to set up camp and to prepare the people for a special visitation from Him. God gave specific instructions for their preparations and strictly warned them not to come near the mountain nor to touch it lest they die. The all-holy God could not come into contact with sinful humanity. Therefore, there needed to be an intermediary, someone who could approach God, receive His instructions and present them to the people. Here we see Moses as a type of Christ our High Priest.

Moses went up into the mountain to receive the Law from God and he remained there for forty days. During his time there with God he was given detailed instructions on the construction of the Tabernacle, the place where God would meet with His chosen people. Many of the furnishings, utensils and ceremonies that were used in the Tabernacle pointed forward to the atoning work of our High Priest, the Lord Jesus Christ.

At the conclusion of His instructions God told Moses to hurry down to the camp for the people had corrupted themselves in idol worship. God told Moses that He would destroy the people and would raise up a great nation from his descendants. Moses pled with God to forgive the people and even told Him that he was willing to have his name blotted out of the Book of Life in exchange for their forgiveness. Here again Moses typifies Christ in that he was willing to die for the sins of the people, even as Christ died for our sins, though He was without sin.

Leaving Mt. Sinai and travelling on toward Canaan the people complained about their food. The Lord and Moses were both greatly displeased and Moses questioned God's fairness in giving him the responsibility for all the “children” (Numbers 11:11-13). God responded by promising Moses that he would provide meat for the entire multitude for a whole month. Moses' lack of faith shows when he questions God's ability to provide meat for such a multitude. It should be an encouragement to us that even men of great faith have times of doubt and God continues to use us in spite of our weak times.

Another characteristic of Moses that deserves mention is his humility. Like Christ, he did not see his position of leadership as one to be exploited for personal gain, but rather a position of service. When his leadership was challenged by Miriam and Aaron, Moses did not defend himself or try to assert his authority but allowed God to deal with their rebellious spirit. Several times throughout the course of the wilderness wanderings Moses’ leadership was challenged, but he always allowed God to handle the rebellious.

As one reads through the account of Moses’ life and his responsibility of leading the people, the necessity of obedience leaves a strong impression. God gave commands that he expected them to obey. His commands were not
care of her and helped her with her education, etc.

But the ultimate qualifying factor that the Apostle Paul advises is found in verse 30, “only in the Lord.” The Apostle Paul was addressing the church members of Corinth. He would not have spoken that way to the heathen, But he could speak that way to the church members. The parental decision must be “only in the Lord.”

I was asked to perform one of our grandsons’ wedding ceremonies. The first question I asked the young couple was, “Have you received Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour?” They both said, “Yes.” So that marriage could be in the Lord.

The considerations Paul wrote in this text are very helpful basics: think of the present distress--the pressure of life; think of the personal dedication--prefer the other; think of the parental decision--only in the Lord. May the Holy Spirit use this teaching to strengthen our Christian homes.

We Must
HEAR From YOU!!

Have you been receiving the HOPE HERALD for several years? If we have not heard from you within the past FIVE (5) YEARS, you will be put on our “inactive” mailing list! If that happens, you will not receive your annual copy of the HOPE HERALD.

We don’t want that to happen. But to be good stewards of the resources God has given, we must have your complete, accurate mailing address. If you move, please let us know as soon as possible.

If you haven’t written to us for several years, do it now, by e-mail at hope@heraldsofhope.org, or by post at PO Box 3, Breezewood, PA 15533. That way you will not need to miss out on receiving your copy of the HOPE HERALD.

Yours for the Asking!
“Back to Basics” – Selections from Acts
Please print clearly

name

post office and street address

city state country

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MOSES: GOD’S MAN FOR THE TIME

Part II

In our last time together we looked at an overview of Moses life beginning with the time just prior to his birth and ending with the exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt. Now we pick up the narrative immediately following the exodus and continue through until the death of Moses at Mt. Nebo.

God did not permit the children of Israel to take the closest, most direct route to Canaan. Instead, He directed Moses to lead them southeast toward the Red Sea. Here God proved His power over Pharaoh and his host in a miraculous way. Here too, Moses exercised one of the qualities of a good leader by directing the people to seek God’s face in finding a solution to their problem.

Following their miraculous deliverance from Pharaoh’s armies and the crossing of the sea on dry ground, Moses led the people in a song of praise to God for His triumph. Traveling south into the Sinai, three days journey brought them to Marah. Here the people murmured against Moses because the water was not usable for drinking. How much like them we are when in crisis situations we lose sight of the fact that God has miraculously provided for our needs in the past. Moses cried out to God for direction and God instructed him what to do.

As we move with the children of Israel through the wilderness toward Mt. Sinai, we see time and again Moses cried out to God for wisdom in leading...
SERMONS FROM
I CORINTHIANS 7

MUTUAL DEPENDENCY IN MARRIAGE

Marriage is the first human relationship recorded in the Bible. You will find it in the first book of the Bible in the second chapter. It was apparent to the Lord God that one lone man was incomplete. There was no animal Adam had named that could be his equal. He needed someone to be beside him. God said, “it is not good for man to be alone.” God acted on that thought and created a woman for Adam. He called her name Eve. The Lord instructed them to replenish the earth. Adam said by this union they would be one, and they would become creators.

Sadly, over the centuries, this high relationship of marriage became tarnished so that marriage for many has lost its meaning. People want to experience the sexual union without its consequences. That is why abortion clinics operate, and immorality of all kinds of perversion increases.

The Bible gives clear basic instruction for MUTUAL DEPENDENCY IN MARRIAGE. The Apostle Paul gives good teaching on the gender relationships in I Corinthians 7:1-9.

1. Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman.
2. Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.
3. Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.
4. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.
5. Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.
6. But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment.
7. For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.

We need to reorder our priorities. Look how the Apostle Paul saw life’s priorities in verses 30-31: “And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.” Give yourself to the most important issues of life. Reorder your priorities and have a loose hold on the material.

Barnes Notes, I Corinthians, pg. 135: “We should partake of all our pleasures, and endure all our sufferings, with deep feeling that we have here no continuing city and no abiding place. Soon all our earthly pleasures will fade away; soon all our earthly sorrows will be ended. A conviction of the shortness of life will tend much to regulate our desires for earthly comforts, and will keep us from being improperly attached to them; and it will diminish our sorrows by the prospect that they will soon end.”

THE PERSONAL DEDICATION is the second consideration for marriage guidance. A man has a responsibility when he gets married which he should remember. He has a responsibility to look after his wife, making sure that her needs are met and taken care of. There must be, of course, a proper balance but this is a much needed area to consider. Too many husbands put their careers first. They feel they must build their financial empires. So they work at it, and their wives are left to fend the best they can. The Apostle says here, “that when a man is married he looks after the things of his wife.” And he should. That is personal dedication on the part of the husband.

Then he turns it over. A married woman should look after the needs of her husband, how she may please her husband! This is good counsel, worthy and necessary for partners, especially with women going into the marketplace. What is it that a woman should consider most of all when she is married? She should consider her husband and family.

A true union is when a husband and wife are one in spirit to serve the Lord with complete dedication. A personal dedication to each other in the Lord will seek to avoid distraction by individual desires. I challenge you with the value of a personal dedication.

THE PARENTAL DECISION is the third consideration for marriage guidance. In past years parents were more involved in the marriages of their children. Counsel was sought and given. A young man usually asked the young woman’s father for her hand in marriage.

In Paul’s day it was even more immediate control. A father had the right to deny marriage to his daughter. In fact, in some societies today that is still true. Two of our friends in Africa, when they wanted to get married, had to wait two years until the bride’s uncle would say, “Yes.” He had taken
30. And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not;

31. And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

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:

33. But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife.

34. There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

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.

36. But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry.

37. Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, doeth well.

To outline the Apostle’s guidance for marriage, I bring you several CONSIDERATIONS as I found them here in the text.

THE PRESENT DISTRESS is the first consideration for marriage guidance. We have no surety of tomorrow. We hear of people who are here today and gone tomorrow through an accident or some such occurrence. Paul’s day was like that, too, perhaps even more so. His day was fraught with many uncertainties. The Roman government was hostile to Christians. They hunted them down and arrested them. They were brought to the arena and made to fight with lions, wild animals. Many died in the arenas. There was trouble in the flesh, the Apostle says. We are beset by frailty. Ailments come upon us from unsuspected sources. We hardly know how we make it from day to day because of trouble in the flesh.

The present distress has shortness of time. All Christians who believe the Bible have looked forward to the coming of Christ at any time.

Lifetime really is only a speck. Stop and think about it, just a speck on the great line of time. So, we need to keep this in mind.

STUDY QUESTIONS FOR I CORINTHIANS 1-8

This first letter to the believers in Corinth was written by the Apostle Paul from Ephesus about 25 years after Christ. The Apostle by the Holy Spirit wrote to this church established on his second missionary journey. He desired that they might not come behind in any gift (1:7) and find the faithful God confirming them blameless in the day of the Lord (1:8, 9).

The book is well outlined in four great concepts (1:30), all perfected in us by Christ Jesus: wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. There is a logical progression of truth here which the Apostle develops with much practical instruction leading to the great triumph of the resurrection.

May the Holy Spirit lighten your mind and bring Spiritual fruit as you study the book of I Corinthians, using this outline.

- I. Introduction 1:1-31
- II. Wisdom 2:1-4:21
- III. Righteousness 5:1-0:13
- IV. Sanctification 9:1-14:40
- V. Redemption 15:1-50
- VI. Conclusion 16:1-24

It is our heartfelt prayer that you will come to a deeper understanding of the truth as you work through these study questions taken from I Corinthians. May you truly come to see Christ Jesus as your wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption.

Your Friend in Christ,

J. Mark Horst, President

Please do NOT mail these lessons to Heralds of Hope. We can NOT return them to you. Study and answer the questions. Check your answers from page 16-17. The chapters and verses are in (1 Cor. 1-8).
I Corinthians 1-8

1. Who is the writer of I Corinthians? (1:1)

2. To whom is the letter written? (1:2)

3. How is the grace of God given to man? (1:4)

4. What is confirmed on the Corinthian believers? (1:6)

5. What were the believers waiting for? (1:7)

6. What characteristic of God is given in verse 9? (1:9)

7. What was Paul's concern for the church? (1:10)

8. What problem existed among the believers? (1:11)

9. What is the answer to the questions in v. 13? (1:13)

10. What was Paul sent to do? (1:17)

11. How does an unbeliever view the preaching of the cross? (1:18)

12. What is the believer's view of the preaching of the cross? (1:18)

13. What will God's power destroy? (1:19)

14. What is God's view of worldly wisdom? (1:20)

15. How does it please God to bring salvation to man? (1:21)

16. What did Paul preach? (1:23)

17. What kind of people are seldom saved? (1:26)

18. What has God chosen to confound mighty things? (1:27)

Jesus Christ is more precious than to maintain the marriage.

The force of v. 16 tempers any tendency to foster or encourage a rupture in the marriage. Paul is teaching that the believer is to try to keep the mixed marriage together in hope that the testimony of the believer will be used by God to bring the unbeliever to Christ. The factual condition of v. 16 suggests there is hope that God in his providence will do just that.

Reflect again on the considerations that Paul brings for mutual responsibility for marriage partners. There is the unchanging principle in total union, the unfailing advice to hold the marriage together, the unhappy separation which leaves the unbeliever outside. The Bible encourages believers to hold marriages together.

GUIDANCE FOR MARRIAGE

Marriage, I believe, is the most intimate of human relations and the most serious. It is God's plan for the welfare of mankind. When God brought Eve to Adam, he said, “For this cause shall a man leave his father and his mother and cleave to his wife.” Now the word cleave in this text means to be glued, joined with the idea of no separation.

Today there seems to be a laxity regarding marriage which should be corrected. Too many consider marriage a mere convenience. Some do not even bother going through the ceremony, living together without commitment. That way when they separate there is no divorce.

The whole concept of marriage should involve a man and a woman for life. Divorce has shattered the foundations of the home. The Biblical teaching on marriage leaves no room for same-sex marriage relations.

Having said this I must now give you GUIDANCE FOR MARRIAGE from I Corinthians 7:26-37, the writings of the Apostle Paul.

26. I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be.

27. Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife,

28. But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you.

29. But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none;
vice. Let’s remember Paul was a man of wisdom. When he spoke, people should listen, even today. We should heed his word. We should observe what he told us and we should lay it to heart.

Paul advised to keep the marriage union intact even if one partner was not a believer: “If a brother hath a wife that believeth not and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away.” This was an existing condition. This brother in Corinth became a believer after they were married, but he had an unbelieving wife. What should he have done? Paul counseled to keep the marriage bond.

His advice applied to both husband and wife. The husband was not to put his wife away. The wife was not to leave her husband if he was not a believer. In the Greek New Testament the advice is the same for both. Paul advised do not breakup the marriage because one is not a believer.

Paul recognized the permanence of marriage. He surely had not condoned a Christian marrying an unbeliever. That is very clear from his second letter where he said, “I have no fellowship with unbelievers. Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers.” So he had not accepted or suggested the marriage of an unbeliever with a believer. He advised that one who became a Christian after the wedding was to be considerate and maintain, sustain the marriage.

The Corinthian believers came out of paganism. They had not had the advantage of the Jewish teaching, which has a high regard for marriage. Therefore the question arose, “What should they do?”

It would be well for all people to hear Paul with his unfailing advice. If one is an unbeliever and is content to dwell with a believer, then let the believer not put away the unbeliever. Keep the marriage bond.

The Apostle goes on to explain that the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the believing wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the believing husband, so that the children are legitimate children. This is quite clear. The tense and grammar of this particular section make it absolutely clear, that this is a case of the unbelieving man or the unbelieving woman being sanctified. The marriage is sanctified by the one who is a Christian, the one who is the believer. So, we must hold to Paul’s unfailing advice.

THE UNHAPPY SEPARATION is the third consideration. The Apostle Paul takes it all the way and says if the unbeliever initiates the separation then there is no recourse. If the unbeliever departs let him depart. A brother or sister is not under bondage in such cases. This means they are not like a slave, bought, marketed and sold. Though it may bring sorrow, the believer should not give up faith to preserve the marriage. In other words if the unbeliever demands that the believer give up his or her faith or “else,” then, the “or else” must come! A continuing relationship with
10. And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband:

11. But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.

12. But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away.

13. And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him.

14. For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean: but now are they holy.

15. But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.

16. For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?

In this text the Apostle gives us several serious CONSIDERATIONS so that we can understand how mutual responsibility works in marriage.

THE UNCHANGING PRINCIPLE is the first consideration. The Apostle began his word in this text with “not I, but the Lord.” A principle is a rule to go by. This principle came from the Lord: marriage is for life, Paul wrote, “Let her not depart.” That makes it clear, does it not?

Marriage partners must realize that this unity is more than the physical. The emotional, the psychological, and the spiritual, all come together in a marriage relationship. Marriage is to be the union of two people in body, soul, and spirit. Man was created this way. For a marriage to be successful the partners must recognize this. Too often, consideration is given only to the physical.

The unchanging principle makes marriage a binding agreement. Believers must view it that way. Marriages need to be planned and built upon this unchanging principle that the union is for life. Satan has many crafty deceptions to destroy this principle, even when the partners are both believers. Hold fast to this first consideration of the unchanging principle for mutual responsibility in marriage.

THE UNFAILING ADVICE is the second consideration. The Apostle Paul, began this discussion, verse 10. “Not I but the Lord.” In verse 12 he said, “But to the rest speak I, not the Lord.” So he gave us his personal ad-
mediately I conferred not with flesh and blood,” Galatians 1:15, 16.

Be sure to catch the truth, that these men felt very definitely that they had received a gift from God. You and I need to find out what our gifts are and what God wants to do with us. After learning God’s purpose, pursue it diligently. Social relations must not interfere with God’s will.

From Barnes, page 113, “Every man has his own peculiar talent, or excellence. One man excels in one thing, and another in another. One may not have this particular virtue, but he may be distinguished for another virtue quite as valuable. The doctrine here is, therefore, that we are not to judge of others by ourselves, or measure their virtue by ours. We may excel in some one thing, they in another. And because they have not our peculiar virtue, or capability, we are not to condemn or denounce them:”

Mutual dependency in marriage can be achieved when we follow Paul’s counsels: strive for sexual propriety, submit to a yielded position, seek to attain a godly purpose. You can have a successful and happy marriage with mutual dependency when you build it within the will of God.

**MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY IN MARRIAGE**

In every man and every woman there has been planted the desire to mate. It takes twelve years or more for children to develop sexually. The proper sexual relation at maturity is between male and female, and it needs to be controlled.

Of all creatures only man has naturally uncontrolled sexual impulses. To the animal world mating is controlled by instinct and seasons. But, according to the opening chapters of the book of Genesis, man and woman have need of self control.

God destroyed the world of Noah’s time because the human race failed to control the sexual drives of the physical, resulting in degrading morality lower than the animals. They corrupted themselves, the Bible says. Jesus predicted that as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be when He returns. I submit we now have come to that time. Secular society knows little control, rather openness, with kinds of relationships that certainly do not foster propriety, happiness, and holiness.

All people should pay attention to the Biblical standards of marriage. Seemingly some do not even know they exist. The Apostle Paul was led of the Holy Spirit to counsel believers in 1 Corinthians 7:10-16 concerning MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY IN MARRIAGE.
76. Who is responsible to examine church members? (5:12)

77. What is Paul's instruction concerning this person? (5:13)

78. Disagreements between believers should be settled where? (6:1)

79. Who shall judge the world? (6:2)

80. Will believers judge angels? (6:3)

81. Who should be chosen to carry out church discipline? (6:5)

82. Where were believers going to settle disputes? (6:6)

83. What was Paul's advice? (6:7)

84. Who will not inherit the kingdom of God? (6:9)

85. How do sinners become saints? (6:11)

86. What three things does the Spirit do? (6:11)

87. What thought governed Paul's activities? (6:12)

88. What did Paul fear? (6:12)

89. To whom does your body belong? (6:13)

90. How will God raise us up? (6:14)

91. How should we live since our bodies are members of Christ? (6:15)

92. What should be our response toward fornication? (6:18)

93. Fornicators sin against whom? (6:18)

94. Where does the Holy Spirit live? (6:19)

that transfers authority. The Apostle says in verse 4, “The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.”

The word power here is the Greek word for authority or right. For example, whenever the “yes” is said in marriage vows. I tell you, the partners transfer authority,

Now I realize that today some movements for personal identity and power have misunderstood or ignored Paul’s word. Unfaithfulness can never be justified. I repeat that. Unfaithfulness to the marriage vow can never be justified.

Now the Apostle speaks about defrauding one another. By that he means denying the right of sexual union. God intended that union for male and female. That's what Adam said, “They shall be one flesh.” Every married couple should have a family to fulfill the mandate from God, “Be fruitful and multiply.” It is not proper, it is not right. I believe, to deny family for personal enjoyment or social climbing.

Paul gives us the second counsel for mutual dependency in marriage: submit to the yielded position. Such mutual dependency results in rewards for humanity as expressed in the Pulpit Commentary, I Corinthians, page 239.

“The family is the true unit in human society, and the enemy of marriage is the enemy of humanity. It is in the family that virtuous and honourable citizens are bred and reared, and there principles are instilled which are at the foundation of national stability. And the old saying is equally true, that by marriage heaven itself is replenished. It is hence that the Church draws its members and its officers; it is here that the natural life and the eternal life are alike commenced and nurtured.”

Yes, praise God!

SEEK TO OBTAIN A GODLY PURPOSE is the third counsel for mutual dependency in marriage. Each person is to discern the gift God has given him. “Every man hath his proper gift of God,” That means that each person must be totally yielded to the Lord. The question that should be asked is, ‘What has God planned for me?’ That is more important than any other question you might ask. “What has the Lord planned for me?”

Jeremiah 1:5 has a word from the Lord: “Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.”

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Galatians, “But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb, and called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; im-
8. I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I.

9. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.

From Paul’s writings I define several direct and intimate COUNSELs to instruct us for mutual dependency in marriage.

**STRIVE FOR SEXUAL PROPRIETY** is the first counsel for mutual dependency in marriage. Let there be monogamous relations. No wife and husband swapping. Let every man have his own wife and let every woman have her own husband. This principle is first stated in Genesis 2:24: “For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and be joined unto his wife and they shall be one flesh.”

This is the natural physical human relationship. And yet because man is body, soul and spirit and woman is body, soul, and spirit, there is a union of all the parts of their beings.

Let them maintain their union, the Apostle Paul says, by common consent. Let the husband render to the wife her due and let the wife render to the husband his due. Later Paul speaks of depriving or defrauding a partner.

On my first trip to Nigeria, two brothers came to me and asked me what I thought about polygamy, I said, “Coming from America, I don't feel confident to answer your problem. I can tell you what the Bible says. The Bible says, “One man, one woman for life.”

It is a monogamous union. That is the Christian pattern. That is what the Apostle Paul said here, let a man have his wife and let the wife have her husband.

Barnes’ Notes on I Corinthians, pages 111, 112, gives appropriate instruction: “Paul would keep the church from scandal. How much evil, how much deep pollution, how many abominable crimes would have been avoided, which have since grown out of the monastic system, and the celibacy of the clergy among the papists, if Paul's advice had been followed by all professed Christians! Paul says that marriage is honourable, and that the relations of domestic life should be formed to avoid the evils which Flow from the neglect of his advice. Every community where the marriage tie has been lax and feeble, or where it has been disregarded or dishonored, has been full of pollution, and it ever will be, Society is pure and virtuous, just as marriage is deemed honourable, and as its vows are adhered to and preserved.” Yes, Amen.

**SUBMIT TO A YIELDED POSITION** is the second counsel for mutual dependency in marriage. When anyone says “yes” in the marriage vow,
114. How long is marriage to last? (7:39)

115. If one spouse dies can the remaining one remarry? (7:39)

116. What does knowledge bring? (8:1)

117. What is the goal of love? (8:1)

118. Who knows God? (8:3)

119. Does God have any equals? (8:4)

120. Does everyone recognize only one true God? (8:7)

121. Why should we use our liberty carefully? (8:9)

122. Should we refrain from activities which offend others? (8:10)

123. If we offend a weak brother, who else is offended? (8:12)

124. What factor controlled Paul's activities? (8:13)

Answers for I Corinthians Chapters 1 - 8

1. Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ
2. the Corinthians and all believers
3. by Jesus Christ
4. the testimony of Christ
5. the coming of Christ
6. faithfulness
7. unity, no divisions
8. contentions
9. No.
10. to preach the Gospel
11. as foolishness
12. it is the power of God
13. worldly wisdom
14. it is foolishness
15. by the preaching of the Gospel
16. Christ crucified
17. wise, mighty, noble
18. weak things
19. our own fleshly abilities
20. wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption
21. the Lord
22. in weakness, fear, trembling
23. the Spirit
24. the wisdom of men and power of God
25. in a mystery
26. our salvation through the crucifixion
27. the wisdom of God
28. the deep things of God
29. the Spirit of God
30. the natural (fleshy) man
31. he lacks spiritual discernment
32. all things
33. the mind of Christ
34. they are carnal
35. God
36. our own labor
37. other believers and God
38. masterbuilder of the church
39. the foundation
40. Jesus Christ
41. be careful how you build
42. gold, silver, precious stones
43. wood, hay, stubble
44. the fire of judgment
45. those that remain through fire
46. the temple of God
47. destruction
48. God is holy
49. foolishness
50. man's wisdom
51. all things
52. faithfulness
53. the Lord
54. hidden things of darkness
55. God
56. Nothing!
57. They are gifts from God
58. to the world, angels and men
59. suffering and unselfish labor
60. follow my example
61. in every church
62. I will come soon
63. not words, but power
64. fornication
65. pride
66. the church
67. excommunication
68. corrupt it
69. purge it out
70. to keep the church holy
71. the Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread
72. Christ
73. in sincerity and truth
74. out of the world
75. sinning believers
76. fellow believers
77. put away
78. in the church
79. saints
80. Yes, (see Jude 6)
81. wise men
82. the courts of unbelievers
83. be willing to suffer wrong
84. the unrighteous
85. by the Spirit of God
86. washed, sanctified, justified
87. is it profitable?
88. bondage to habits - power of things
89. the Lord
90. by His own power
91. we serve Him
92. Flee from it
93. God; their own body
94. in your body
95. in body and spirit
96. faithful, monogamous marriage
97. due benevolence
98. unselfishness
99. during times of fasting and prayer
100. singleness
101. remain single
102. remarriage
103. no
104. accept it
105. the courts
106. unbeliever can be saved
107. the one you are in
108. remain single
109. trouble in the flesh
110. time is short
111. to please the Lord
112. to please his spouse
113. No
114. until death
115. only a believer
116. Pride
117. edify = build up
118. those that love Him
119. No
120. No
121. Iest we cause weak to stumble
122. yes
123. God
124. weaker brother's conscience