

REKINDLING YOUR MARRIAGE TO CHRIST

I. Introduction

1. When a person obeys the gospel, he is married to Christ, Rom.7:4.
2. Paul speaks of Christ as the head, and the church as his body, Eph.5:25-33.
 - A. Wives are to be in subjection to their husbands.
 - B. The church is to be in subjection to Christ, Eph.5:22-25.
3. Sometimes members of the church leave their first love, Rev.2:4.
4. We need to rekindle our love for Christ.

II. The Decline of Romance in Marriage

1. Experts tell us that in marriage, there are five steps to the decline of it.

A. Romance.

- 1). Remember how in love you were when you were trying to win him/her?
- 2). You both tried to please the other.
- 3). The same is true when we became Christians.
 - a. We wanted to tell others about Christ and his church.
 - b. We wanted to attend every service.
 - c. We wanted to learn as much as we could.

B. Reality.

(1). After the honeymoon, reality sets in. You find the angel you married is an ordinary human being that differs from you in other way than just being a female.

- a. The wife finds the husband has some habits that he didnt express when they were courting.
- 2). After we have been in the church for awhile, we see that everyone is not perfect.
 - a. Of course we arent either.
 - b. People dont have their lessons, some even forget or have lost their books.
 - c. People go to sleep in services, etc.
 - d. Members do things which you think they should not do.

C. Rut.

- 1). In marriage we get use to one another.
 - a. We take one another for granted.
 - b. We stop trying to please the other, and start pleasing ourselves.
- 2). In our marriage to Christ, we have the same problem.
 - a. We go to church, but only go through motions rather than worshipping.
 - b. We go to assemble to see what we can get out of it, rather than to see what we can put into it.

c. We get excited about fights and fusses, but don't show much interest in duty or doing for others.

D. Resentment.

1). Soon, one begins to resent the other because he/she has changed and no longer acts as he/she did when we first got married.

a. This shows up in negative statements made about the other before others.

b. The two begin drifting apart in their interests. They become strangers living under the same roof.

c. Some may be husband and wife, but they act more like brother and sister.

2). The same thing happens in one's marriage to Christ.

a. The person begins to pick and pout over everything.

b. He/she gripes about the preacher not preaching interesting sermons.

c. He/she gripes about the elders never doing anything right.

d. He/she gripes about the church being made up of hypocrites.

E. Revenge.

1). The marriage goes in one of several directions:

a. The couple realizes what is happening and revitalizes the marriage.

b. The couple lives under the same roof, but live separate lives.

c. The couple separates and finally divorces.

2). The same thing happens in one's marriage to Christ.

a. He/she begins finding excuses to not be involved.

b. He/she begins looking for an excuse to quit.

III. How To Revitalize Our Marriage To Christ.

1. Rev. 2:5

A. Remember.

1). Remember what you did to win your wife/husband?

2). The same is true in revitalizing our marriage to Christ.

a. Remember what Jesus did for you.

b. Remember who you are.

c. Remember what you are.

d. Remember where you want to go.

B. Repent.

1). The word means to change your mind and go in a different direction.

a. Return to doing what you did when you first won your husband/wife.

2). John told the bride of Christ to return to your first love.

2. To stay in love with Christ, we must:

A. Refocus our attention.

1). What are our priorities in our marriage to Christ?

2). What are our priorities in our marriage?

B. Verbalize our Affirmation.

1). In our marriages, we need to say positive things to one another and to others about our marriage.

2). Begin bragging about the Lord and how great it is to be married to him.

C. Demonstrate our Affections.

- 1). In our marriages, we need to learn what the other needs.
- 2). In our marriage to Christ we need to: Matt.25:40.

D. Revitalize the adventure.

- 1). In our marriages, we need to get out of the boredom.
 - a. More marriages die of boredom than of infidelity.
- 2). In the church we need to get back into the activities of serving others.

E. Live in Unity.

- (1). Intellectually.
- (2). Emotionally.
- (3). Physically.
- (4). Recreationally.
- (5). Spiritual.

IV. Conclusion.

1. Just as one needs to rekindle their marriage by doing these things, so we need to revitalize our marriage to Christ by doing our part.
2. If you are not married to Christ, why not enter that contract today?