

# JESUS, PAUL, AND THE SINGLE LIFE MT. 19:10-12

## 4 Facts about being single:

1. Jesus & Paul were single!
2. All of us start single!
3. Some, maybe most, will end up single!
4. All will be single in eternity

**Luke 20:27** Then came to him certain of the Sadducees, which deny that there is any resurrection; and they asked him, **Luke 20:28** Saying, Master, Moses wrote unto us, If any man's brother die, having a wife, and he die without children, that his brother should take his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. **Luke 20:29** There were therefore seven brethren: and the first took a wife, and died without children. **Luke 20:30** And the second took her to wife, and he died childless. **Luke 20:31** And the third took her; and in like manner the seven also: and they left no children, and died. **Luke 20:32** Last of all the woman died also. **Luke 20:33** **Therefore in the resurrection whose wife of them is she? for seven had her to wife.**

**Luke 20:34** And Jesus answering said unto them, **The children of this world (Οἱ υἱοὶ τοῦ αἰῶνος τούτου) marry (γαμοῦσιν), and are given in marriage (ἐκγαμίζονται):**

**Luke 20:35** But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain **that world (τοῦ αἰῶνος ἐκείνου)**, and the resurrection from the dead, **neither marry (οὔτε γαμοῦσιν), nor are given in marriage (οὔτε ἐκγαμίζονται):**

**Luke 20:36** **Neither can they die any more:** for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.

**Luke 20:37** Now that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. **Luke 20:38** For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him.

What exactly this means and what all it means is unclear but...!

## JESUS & SINGLENES:

### 1. Singleness is not the norm!

**Matthew 19:4** And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning **made them male and female**, **Matthew 19:5** **And said**, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? **Matthew 19:6** Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

### 2. Singleness is good!

Both Jesus & Paul emphasize this!

**Matthew 19:10** His disciples say unto him, **If** the case of the man be so with his wife, it is **not** good to marry.

**Matthew 19:11** But he said unto them, All men cannot receive this saying, **save (ἀλλ')** they to whom it is given.

There has been an endless war about singleness:

- Better...for some (priests)
- Worse...for many

Almost wrong, evil, bad, sinful, weird, strange...

- Good → good for what???

**Matthew 19:12** For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb: and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs **for the kingdom of heaven's sake**. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it.

### 3. Singleness is good **if** we are so-gifted!

**Matthew 19:11** But he said unto them, All men **cannot** receive this saying, save they to whom it is given (*ἀλλ' οἷς δέδοται*).

What does this mean?

### 4. The giftedness for singleness is **understood** and **recognized** through life: circumstances, choices, ...

**Matthew 19:12** For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb: and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs **for the kingdom of heaven's sake**. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it.

**Eunuch has several meanings / ideas:**

- **Castrated male**
- **Official servant**
- **Not married**
- **And maybe not able to marry**

**By life's (God's) choices & circumstances**

**By mankind's choices & circumstances**

**By our own choices & circumstances**

**Do we have any examples of the 3 possibilities?**

A. ?

B. Daniel

C. Jesus and Paul

**Remember: this may not be a lifetime calling!!!**

### 5. Singleness **must** be received as a gift!

**Matthew 19:11** But he said unto them, All men **cannot** receive (*χωροῦσιν τὸν λόγον τοῦτον*) this saying, **save they to whom it is given**. **Matthew 19:12** For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb: and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. **He that is able to receive it, let him receive** (*Ὁ δυνάμενος χωρεῖν χωρεῖτω*) it.