

Paul teaches- the "gift of celibacy" factor (v1-6)



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Paul teaches- the "gift of celibacy" factor (v1-6) various options for singles & marrieds (v7-16)



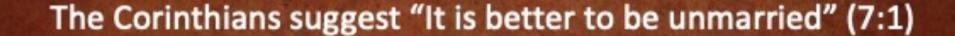
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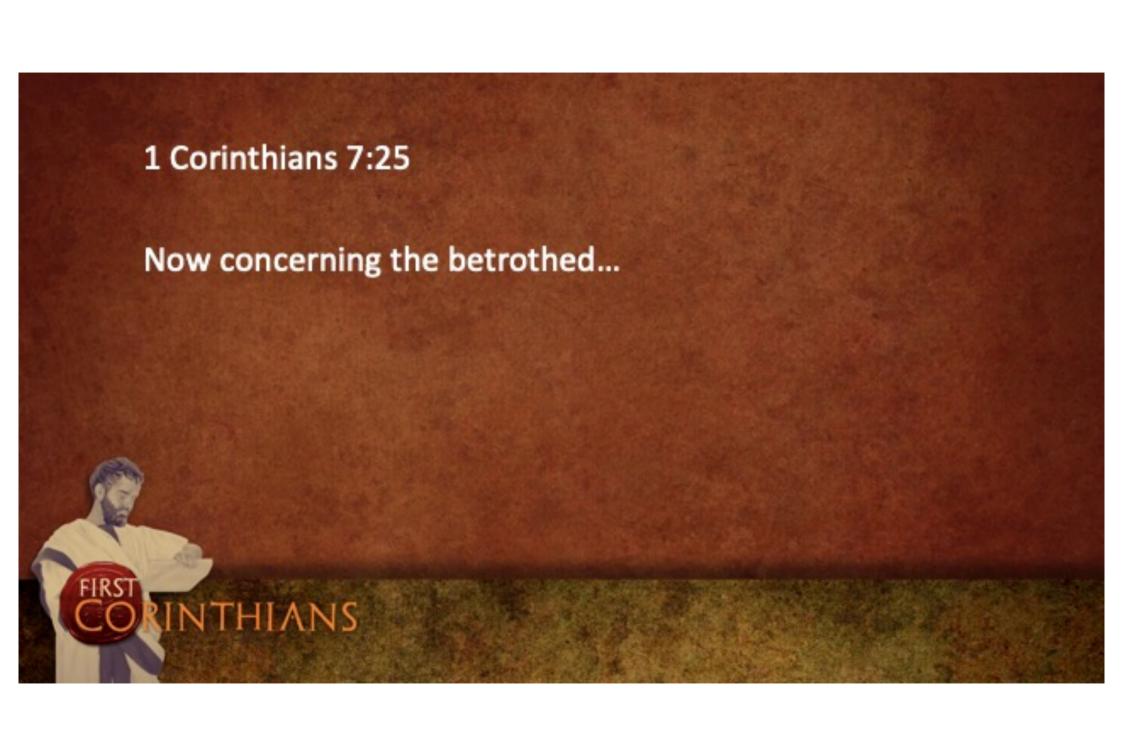
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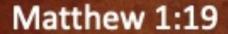




Matthew 1:18

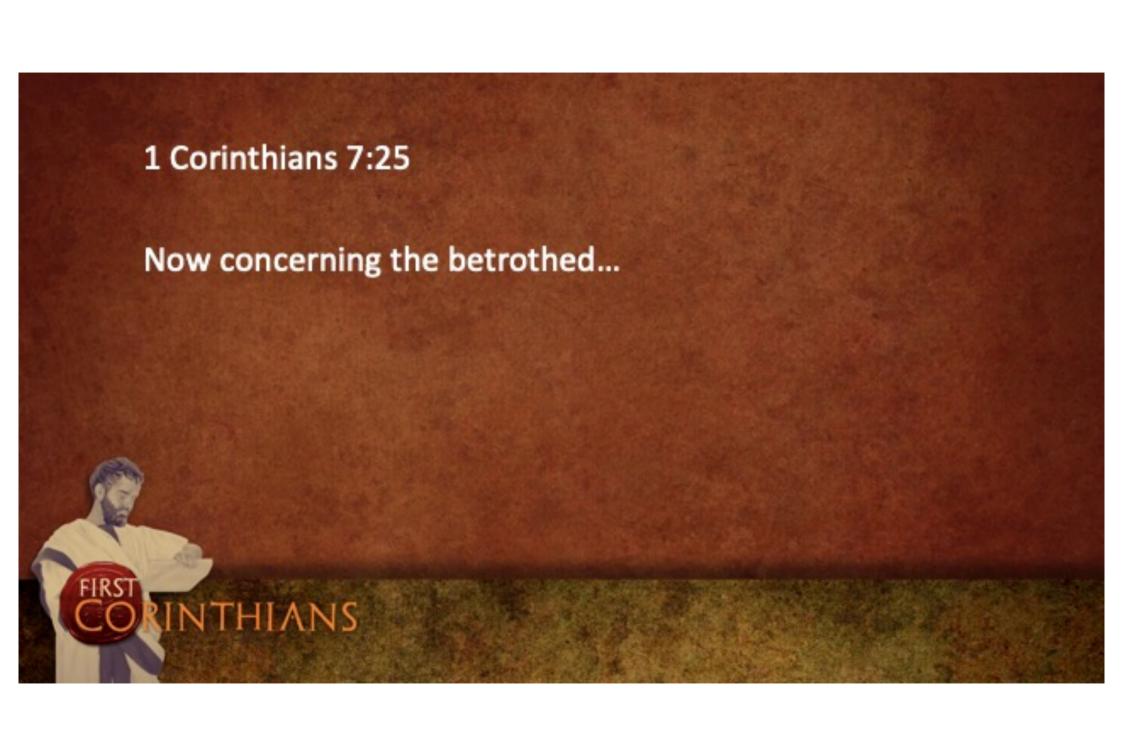
When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.





And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.







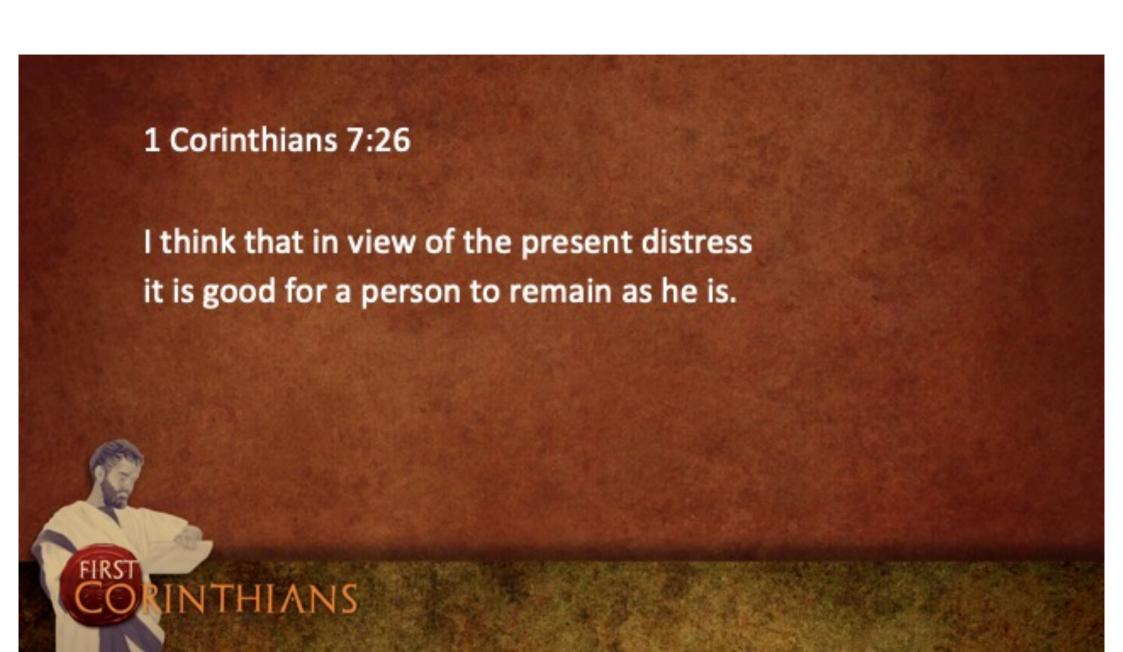
Now concerning the betrothed...

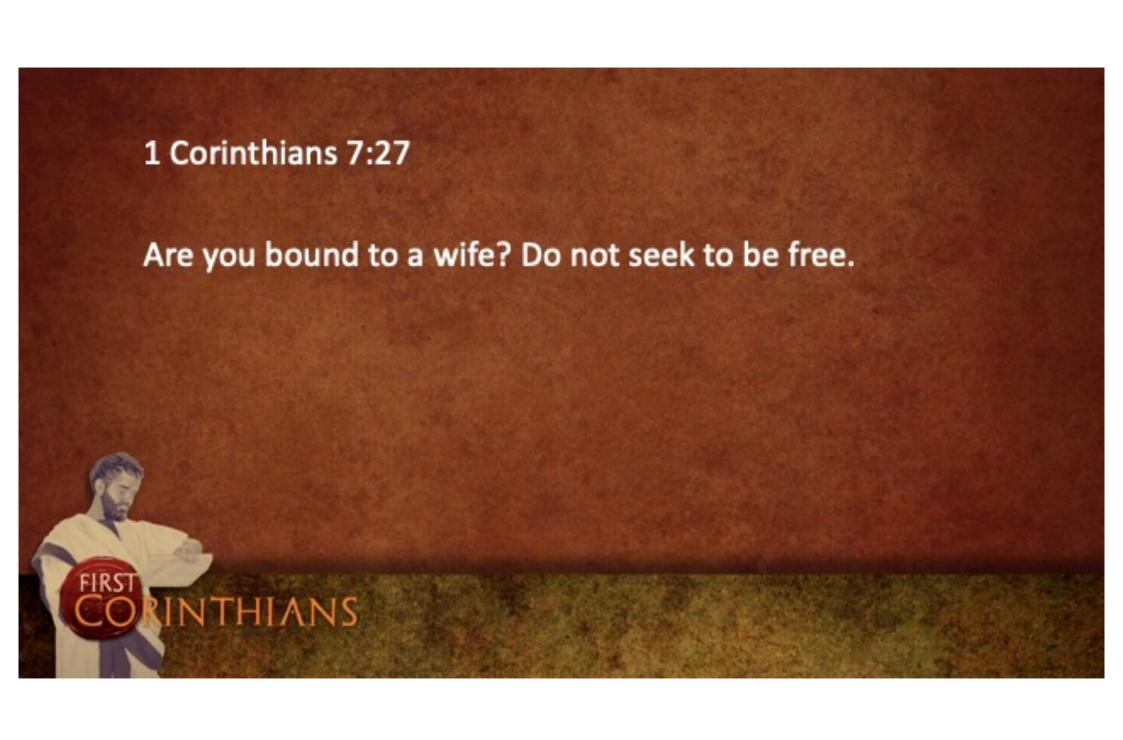
... secure your undivided devotion to the Lord... v35



Now concerning the betrothed,
I have no command from the Lord, but I give my judgment
as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy.









Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free.

Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife.



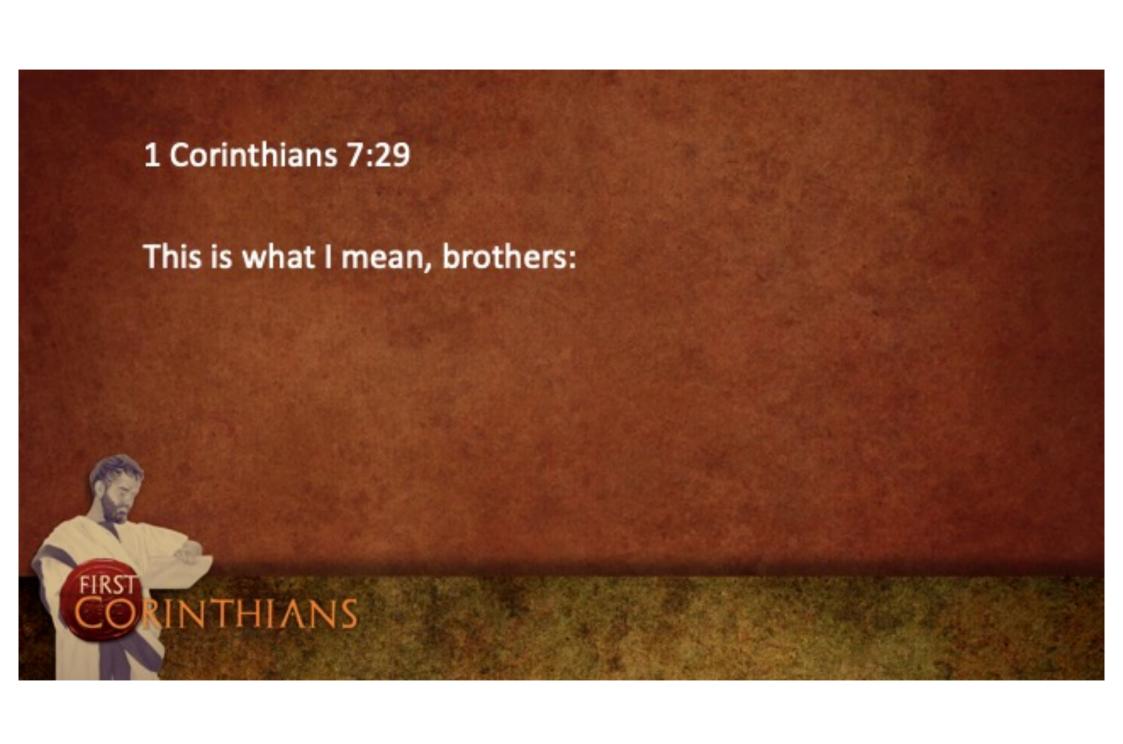


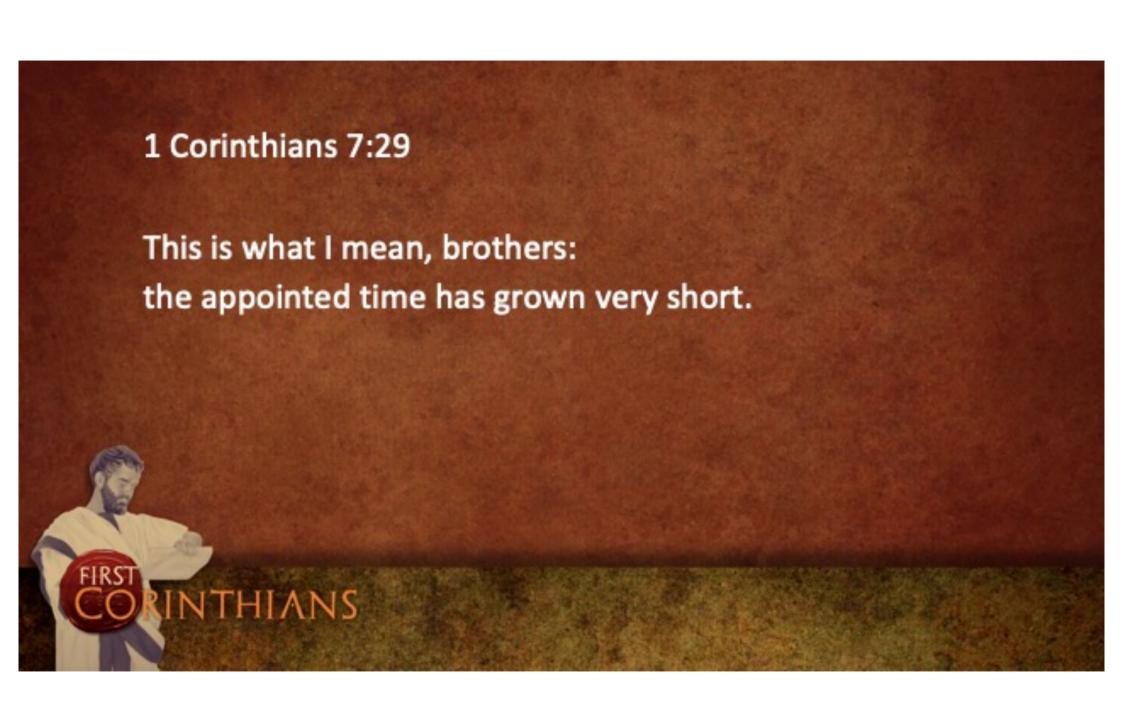
But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman marries, she has not sinned.

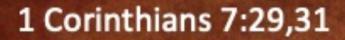


But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles, and I would spare you that.









This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short.

... For the present form of this world is passing away.



This is what I mean, brothers:
the appointed time has grown very short.
From now on, let those who have wives
live as though they had none,

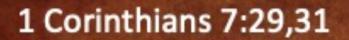


and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods,



and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

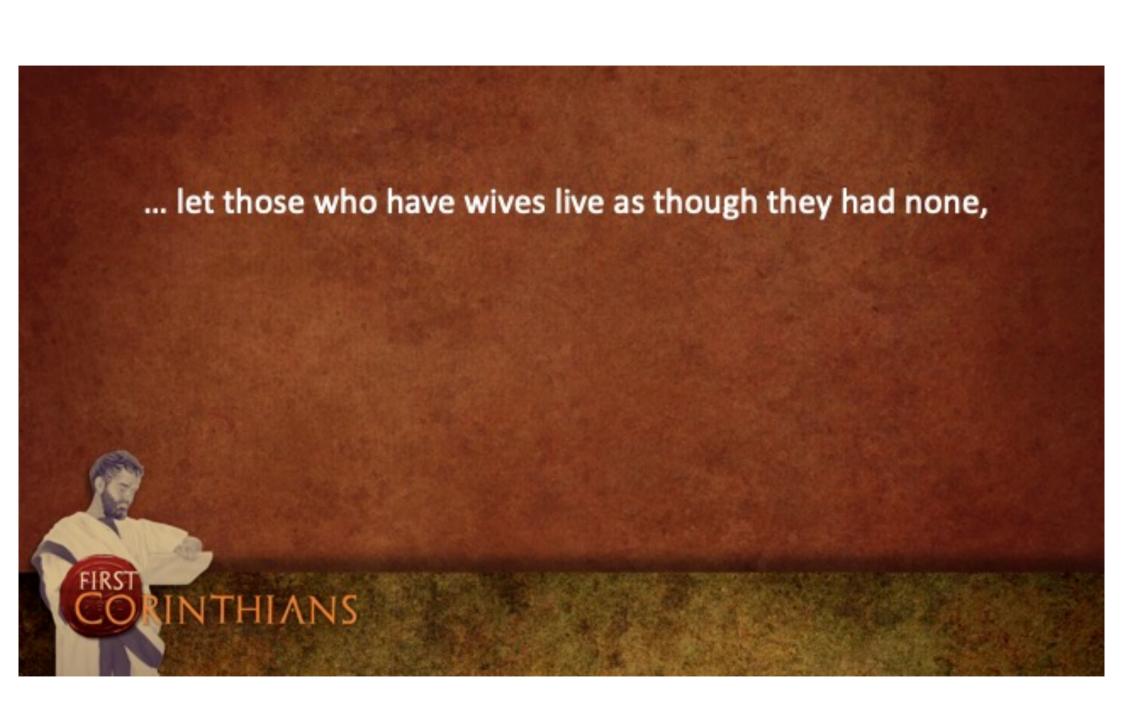




the appointed time has grown very short.

For the present form of this world is passing away.





... let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning,



... let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing,



... let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods,

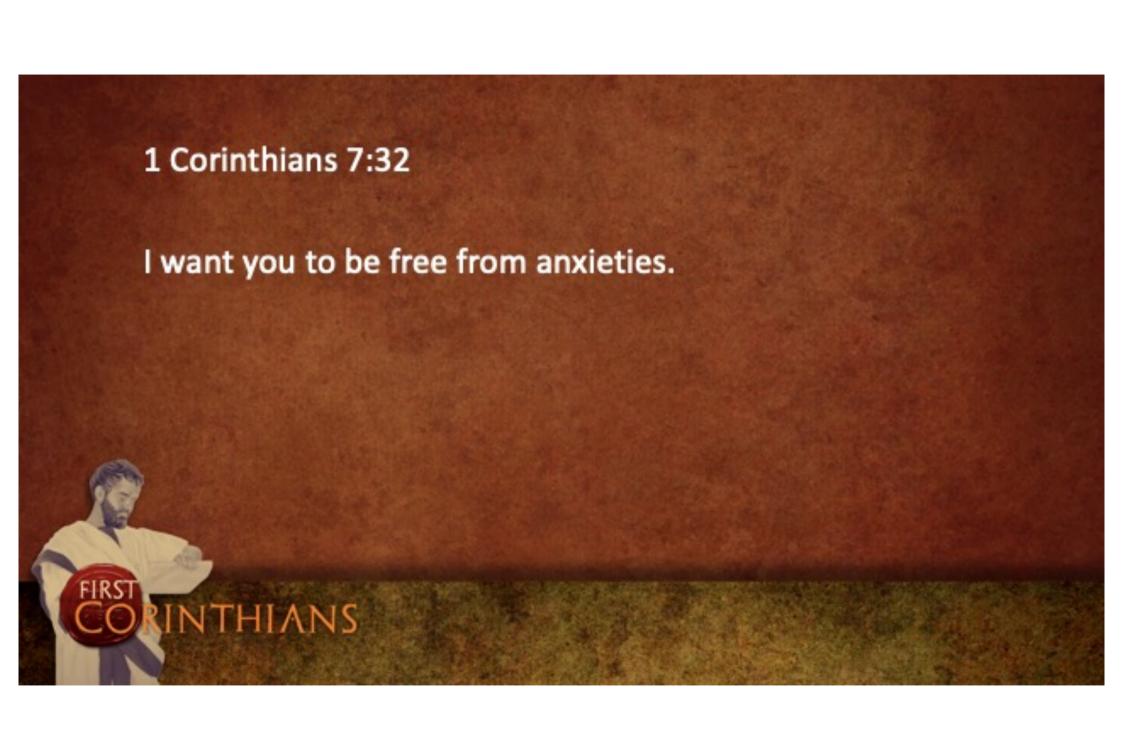


... let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it.



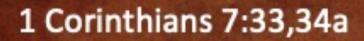
... let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it.





The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord.





But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, and his interests are divided.



And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit.





But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband.



I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.



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I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.



If anyone thinks that he is not behaving properly toward his betrothed, if his passions are strong, and it has to be, let him do as he wishes: let them marry—it is no sin.



But whoever is firmly established in his heart, being under no necessity but having his desire under control, and has determined this in his heart, to keep her as his betrothed, he will do well.



So then he who marries his betrothed does well, and he who refrains from marriage will do even better.



A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

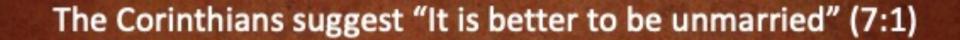


Yet in my judgment she is happier if she remains as she is.

And I think that I too have the Spirit of God.







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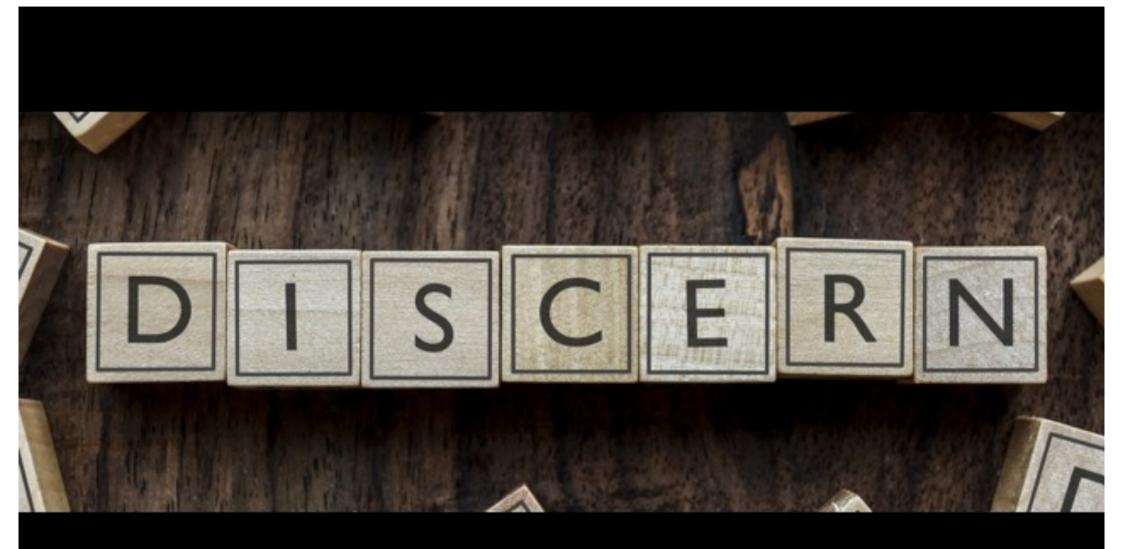
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undivided devotion for the betrothed (v25ff)





1 Timothy 4:1-3

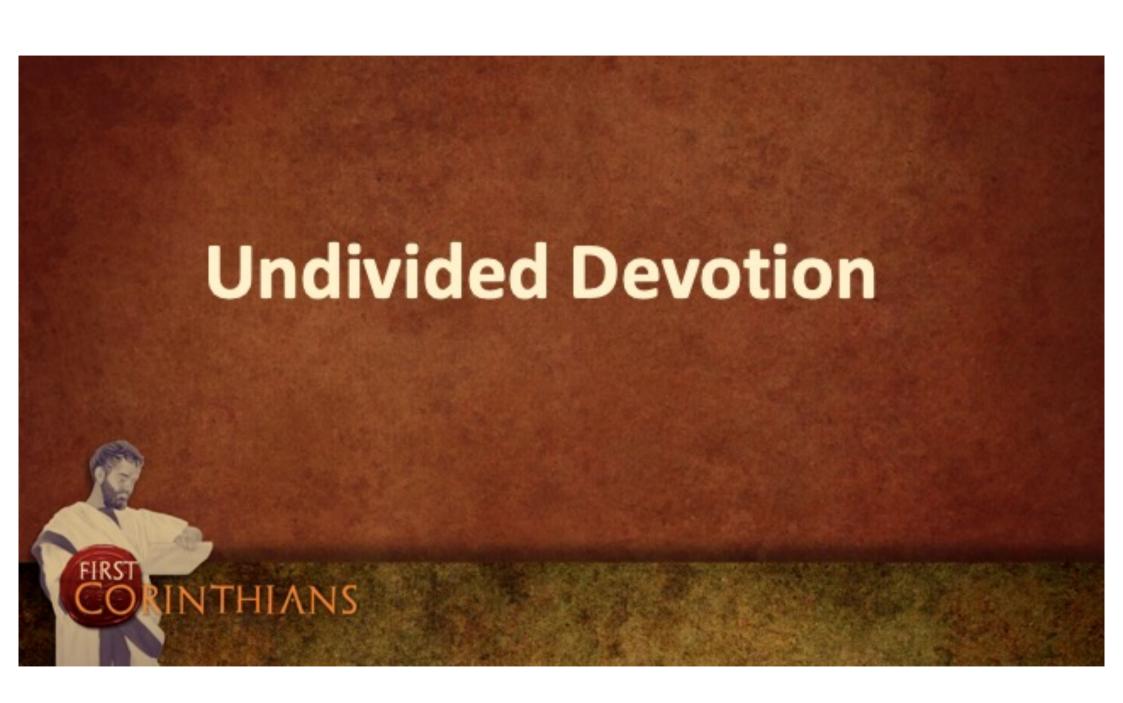
... in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, who forbid marriage ...



Charles Spurgeon



Discernment is not a matter of telling the difference between right and wrong; rather it is telling the difference between right and almost right.











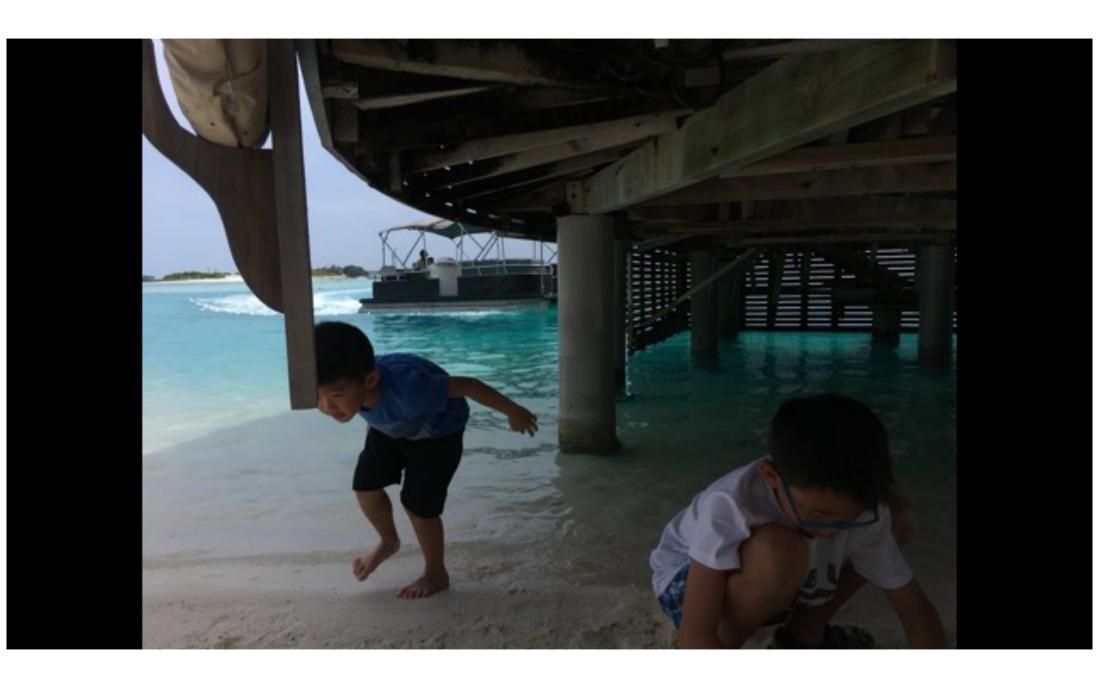




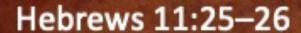












... choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.



Hebrews 11:25-26

... choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

