



## **Honorable Intentions**

*How the Character of Christ*

*Impacts*

*Dating and Courtship*

## **YHWH-tsedeq**

**The LORD our Righteousness**

*Jeremiah 23:6*

## **YHWH-tsedeq**

**The LORD our Righteousness**

*Jeremiah 23:6*

- *Conquest by Babylonians / exile foretold*
- *The remnant will be re-gathered*
- *The righteous Branch (Messiah)*
  - *Will come and rule over them*
- *He is righteous*
  - *He is Righteousness to us*

**1 Corinthians 1:30**  
***Christ became my righteousness***

**2 Corinthians 5:21**  
***We might become the righteousness  
of God in Him***

**1. Believe in Christ**

- Be sure of your salvation
- Be sure of your commitment to Christ

## ***2. Marry in the faith***

- Shared spiritual values and goals
- God included in the relationship
- Look for Fruit

### ***1 Corinthians 7:10-16***

***Mixed marriages caused by salvation of one spouse***

#### ***Unequal yoke***

- *Two oxen pulling in different directions*
- Major decisions
  - Finances
  - Time
  - Child discipline

**YHWH-tsedeq**

**(The LORD our Righteousness)**

*To be a Christian means I have recognized my need for Christ to be my righteousness. I make the decision now that in the realm of “romance”, I will only give my heart to one who shares that conviction.*

**YHWH-jireh**

**The LORD will Provide**

*Gen 22:14*

**YHWH-jireh**  
**The LORD will Provide**  
*Gen 22:14*

***Trust and obey***

- *Abraham submitted to God*
- *Entrusted Isaac, his son to God,*
- *At the last moment, the LORD stopped Abraham*
  - *God provided the ram for a sacrifice*
  - *God provided Christ as the sacrifice for us*

***1. Trust God***

- Trust God with this area of your life
  - Trust in God's loving character
- We walk by faith

## **2. *Grow and serve***

- Keep pure
- Prepare yourself
- Use freedom to grow and serve

### **YHWH-jireh**

#### **(The LORD will Provide)**

*I choose to entrust this area of my life to God to provide a mate. While I am waiting, I will work to prepare myself, to grow spiritually, and resist the temptation to compromise when things seem bleak.*

**YHWH-ra-ah**  
**The LORD is my Shepherd**  
Psalm 23:1

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- Shepherd: leads, nurtures, feeds, heals, protects, shelters, seeks out straying sheep.
- The LORD cares for my needs (I shall not want)
- He cares for my soul as well

## **1. God will provide what I need**

- But not my selfish cravings
- Filling of Holy Spirit

***Romans 8:5,9 Flesh vs Spirit***

## **2. Be content in the Lord**

***Philippians 4:11 Learn to be content***

**YHWH-ra-ah**

**(The LORD is my Shepherd)**

*Jesus satisfies my deepest longings. I  
will learn to discern between genuine  
needs and selfish wants.*

**YHWH-nissi**

**The LORD is my Banner**

*Ex 17:15*

**YHWH-nissi**  
**The LORD is my Banner**  
*Ex 17:15*

- *Joshua fighting against Amalek*
- *Aaron and Hur holding Moses' hands up in prayer*
- *Victory only as Moses continued to pray*

**1. The Christian is engaged in a  
spiritual battle**

- Needs God's protection

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**Principle #2: Romantic relationships can be a major spiritual battleground**

**3. God has provided certain people as part of His protection**

- Parents
- Church
- Godly friends

### ***Ephesians 6:1-3 Parents***

- Pro-active in protecting children
- Godly wisdom and counsel
- Proper structure
- Godly example of a spirit-filled marriage relationship
- Praying for them

### **Others**

- Church Leaders - ***Hebrews 13:17***
  - They watch over your soul
  - Are accountable to God
- Youth leaders
- Sunday School teachers
- Godly friends - ***Proverbs 27:6, 17***
  - Watch out for each other's spiritual welfare
  - Will encourage obedience to Christ

**YHWH-nissi**

**(The LORD is my Banner)**

*I acknowledge that I need God's protection from spiritual dangers. I will also accept and appreciate the people God has put in my life for protection, such as my parents, my church and godly friends.*

**YHWH-qadash**

**The LORD who Sanctifies**

*Leviticus 20:8*

**YHWH-qadash**  
**The LORD who Sanctifies**  
*Leviticus 20:8*

***God is jealous & wants undivided devotion***

- Not dabbling in spirits & mediums
- Playing the harlot
- Seduced by the culture from God

**1. Set your priorities**

- God's design for marriage
- Order your life to preserve that exclusivity

***Hebrews 13:4***  
***Ephesians 5:25-27***  
***1 Corinthians 7:4***

## **2. Guard your purity**

- Thought Life
- Modesty / inner beauty
- Avoid compromising situations

*1 Timothy 5:2*

*1 Peter 3:3-4*

## **3. Focus on Spirit and Soul, not Body**

- Physical intimacy after the wedding
- World's order: Body -> Soul
- God's order: Spirit -> Soul -> Body

**YHWH-qadash**

**(The LORD who Sanctifies)**

*Just as God wants our devotion, the husband and wife are to be devoted to each other. I will so order my life that I will only give myself to my life partner.*

**YHWH-shawmm**

**The LORD is There**

*Ezek 48:35*

# **YHWH-shawmm**

## **The LORD is There**

*Ezek 48:35*

### ***Ezekiel's vision from Babylon***

- *Glory of Lord departing (present) (10:18)*
- *Glory of Lord returning (future) 43:1-9, 48:35 - There)*
- *The LORD will inhabit the new Jerusalem*

## **1. Christ is present in the life of the Christian**

***Galatians 2:20***  
***Colossians 1:10***

**YHWH-shawmm**

**(The LORD is There)**

*I will live with the consciousness that  
Christ is present in me. I will make  
myself accountable to others and avoid  
the kind of secrecy that can create  
occasions of temptation.*

**YHWH-rapha'**

**I, the LORD, and your Healer**  
*Exodus 15:26*

**YHWH-rapha'**  
**I, the LORD, and your Healer**  
*Exodus 15:26*

- *Just delivered from Pharaoh's army at the Red Sea*
- *Bitter waters at Marah*
- *"None of these diseases"*

**1. There are consequences to  
physical intimacy outside of marriage**

- A human life can be conceived
- Exposure to diseases
- Emotional consequences

**YHWH-rapha'**

**(I, the LORD, and your Healer)**

*Following God's way will allow me to live  
free from unnecessary guilt and those  
diseases associated with loose living*

**YHWH-shalom**

**The LORD is Peace**

*Judges 6:24*

# **YHWH-shalom**

## **The LORD is Peace**

*Judges 6:24*

- *Israel oppressed by Midian*
- *The angel of the LORD calls Gideon to defeat the Midianites*
- *The LORD assures Gideon and gives him peace*

### **1. Don't be afraid to be different**

- *Radical discipleship*
- *Cosmic battle over marriage & family*
- *You (the youth) are the target of the enemy*
- *Will you be a warrior for God?*

*Hebrews 11:6*  
*John 16:33*

**YHWH-shalom**

**(The LORD is Peace)**

*Though others may mock me because I do not follow the dating patterns of my culture, God will give me peace in the midst of that conflict.*

**God is interested in every area of our lives  
including "romance"**

**Entrust this area of your life to God!  
Seek God's best for your life**

**1 Corinthians 2:9**

***but just as it is written,  
"THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN  
AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD,  
AND WHICH HAVE NOT ENTERED  
THE HEART OF MAN,  
ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED  
FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."***

