

Introduction: In 1 Corinthians 7 Paul starts to answer some difficulties that were presented to him in a letter from Corinth. In this passage on marriage there are some things that have a local background, and apply particularly to the situation in Corinth. Corinth was a city that had unusual temptations in areas of morality, or lack thereof. The Corinthian Church was concerned about the irregularities and confusion over marriage they were experiencing. They asked Paul for help who became their God-inspired marriage counselor. In his advice he is not seeking to write a systematic treatment on marriage. He is speaking to certain issues and not to the totality of Scripture. Paul has been dealing with licentious sexual immorality since chapter 5. It is not surprising then that he now makes the natural transition to marriage. In chapters 5-6 Paul dealt with the libertarians; here in chapter 7:1-7 he deals with the ascetics – those who were teaching that it was more spiritual to be celibate...that the single state was to be preferred over marriage. In his answers Paul will seek to set forth some general principles concerning marriage.

I. THE _____ PRINCIPLE - 1 Corinthians 7:1
"IT IS GOOD FOR A MAN NOT TO TOUCH A WOMAN"

II. THE _____ PRINCIPLES - 1 Corinthians 7:2-6
*"LET EACH MAN HAVE HIS OWN WIFE
AND
LET EACH WOMAN HAVE HER OWN HUSBAND"*

A. GOD'S SECOND INSTITUTION - _____