WHY YOU SHOULD MARRY A CHRISTIAN

There is no relationship on earth that will have as much to do with you being saved or not as that relationship which you have with the one you marry. This makes marriage the most important contract of life, and one into which prayer and planning should be poured. No person can influence us so much as the one we marry.

There are principles taught throughout the Bible to recommend marriage only among God's children and what are considered by most as direct commands in the New Testament. 2 Cor. 6:14-18 have been accepted by most as the final word on this union, even though it might apply to others too. Aside from these scripture statements there are other reasons for marrying one who is a Christian.

I. The Christian will be more loving. There will be times in every marriage when something will be needed besides our loveableness to keep our mate loving us. This is true because there are times when we are not very lovable. The Christian has a reason for loving his wife besides her behaviour. The Lord tells him to love his wife, and tells her to love her husband. There will be times when a couple will think religion is the only thing on earth they have in common and if they don't have it at these rough times trouble is apt to come that will be hard to overcome or undo.

2. A Christian will be more gentle. There are many wives and children who are afraid of the man of the home. A man who is striving to be like Christ won't be aroused into indignation and throw a plate full of food at his wife like I know to have happened among non-Christians. The children won't be cringing when they come near their father. No virtue is worth any more than this in a father.

3. If you marry a Christian he'll go to worship with you. It is so embarressing to go alone and have people ask where our wife or husband is. Many times the faithful one quits rather than go alone. This is hard to explain to children. They will wonder why Daddy doesn't want to go to heaven, or why he doesn't fear hell. It will be hard to explain to

them that the non-Christian parent isn't a worthy example to follow. They could well wonder why they were good enogh to marry if they should not be imitated.

4. If you marry a Christian he'll pray with you. Woe be unto him who cannot even depend on the one they are married to to say a prayer for them. Two will have a hard time doing enough praying for the life of the home, not to mention only one. The children who never heard either or both parents pray has missed a great blessing in life. I Peter 3:7 assumes that husbands and wives will pray together regularly.

5. You can come nearer being saved. Besides, would you want to live a life with one whom you knew was going to be lost? Non-Christians are going to be lost, even though they're married to Christians. It takes more than just being married to a faithful saint to save one - it takes being married to Christ.

6. If you marry a son of the devil you can't go with him to see your father-inlaw. Get the point here? Never worry, if you marry a son of Satan he will take leave of you and visit his spiritual parent. If you don't go with him you will have problems and if you do you will have more.

7. A Christian will come a thousand times nearer to being true to you than if he were not. There are times when the desires of men cause them to despise others unless they fear God. It would be far better to depend on one's attachment to the Lord keeping them true to us than their loves for just us. The Lord is always present with them and we're not. The Lord is always loveable, and we're not.

8. A Christian won't be making fun of you for your religion. Nothing hurts so badly as having a husband or wife making a joke of religion in public. If you marry a non-Christian you can count on it sooner or later, if not regularly.

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A real home is a picture of heaven on earth.