

Question: Would you please comment on the recent TV program, “Who Wants To Marry A Millionaire?”

In short, the program made a mockery of the God-ordained institution of marriage! The advertisers certainly got what they wanted out of the broadcast, i.e., nationwide attention. Many of us, however, were ashamed that certain people in our land care so little for the sanctity of marriage that they would air a show of this nature.

Hundreds of women submitted their names for consideration as the bride, but only fifty were selected to be on the program. Mr. “Millionaire” observed these women from a small room hidden from their view. At the end of the telecast, he chose his bride and then a marriage ceremony ensued wherein each one vowed to be married “until death do us part.” Well, as you can imagine, the “marriage” scarcely got off the ground before it crashed. Within a few days, both parties were telling their respective stories as to why the whole incident failed.

It is no wonder that the divorce rate is so high in this country, when people have such a shallow concept of marriage. Right here in Jackson County, many couples simply live together for a trial period without entering the covenant of marriage. If they should choose to marry and the result is not to their liking, they simply divorce and start the whole process over again. Many educators not only cave in to societal trends but also encourage them by condoning pre-marital sex, live-in arrangements and divorce. The unhappy result is that our nation is wallowing in a moral abyss resulting in broken homes, confused children and shattered lives.

It is doubtful that the present circumstances will improve very quickly. It took America a long time to reach this low moral ebb, and it will likely take just as long to see a recovery. One thing we can do, though, is prepare the next generation of young people by teaching them God’s pattern for a successful marriage:

- 1) Unmarried men and women (boys and girls) are to abstain from sexual conduct.
(2Ti 2:22; 1Co 6:18-20; 1Th 4:3-8; 1Pe 2:11)
- 2) Marriage provides a man and a woman lifelong, faithful companionship.
(Gen 2:18-24; Mt 19:6; Ro 7:2-3; 1Co 7:39; He 13:4)
- 3) God hates divorce.
(Mal 2:16; Mt 19:3-9)
- 4) God permits a second marriage in only two cases:
 - Spouse dies – (Ro 7:2; 1Co 7:39)
 - Spouse commits adultery – (Mt 5:32; Mk 10:2-12; Lk 16:18)

Next week we will have more to say on how to keep oneself pure in an impure world. One must belong to Christ to be pure. The blood of His cross has the power to cleanse us from sin (Ep 1:7; Co 1:14). When Saul of Tarsus was baptized, his sins were washed away (Ac 22:16). His faith in the gospel of Christ, repentance toward God and subsequent baptism into the death of Christ, activated the Lord’s shed blood to purify his soul from all past sins (Ro 6:3; 1Pe 1:22). Have you been purified in this way?

Study your Bible and search the Truth. Write us today to enroll in a free Bible correspondence course by mail. Thanks for reading!

