

H Sam. 6: 20-23

SUBJECT: Michael; The  
Inclusion of Single

0 10/80

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II Sam. 6: 20-23

MICHAEL - THE LONELINESS OF SINGLES

The sad story of Michael

1. I Sam. 18: 17-28  
Michael loves David. Saul asks dowry ? 100 Philistines  
David delivers 200

2. I Sam. 19: 10-17  
Saves David's life

3. I Sam. 25: 44  
David adulated. Saul gives Michael to Paltiel.

4. II Sam. 3: 12-16  
Years later, Saul dead.  
David negotiates with Abner (captain, last for Saul) to  
obtain entry to Gidon. First requirement, Michael to be returned.  
to grief, weeps. Paltiel.

5. II Sam. 6: 16, 20-23  
Saul's old ragged force. David now many wives  
The boys humbled as well.  
The stinging criticism

6. II Sam. 6: 20-23  
The painful love / or life  
No love, no beginning, a romance old as  
"lonely as a soldier" now dimmed in bitterness

The Difficult Groups of Singles  
 Beyond 50 million in U.S.A.  
 add 1 million a year

1. Singles who have never married  
 Under age 26, 1/2 of total
2. Singles who are separated by <sup>trivial</sup> military life
3. Singles who are widowed by death  
 changed in a moment <sup>so difficult</sup> <sub>with little</sub> - married - not - returned to life
4. Singles by trauma of <sup>desertion</sup> <sub>divorce</sub> <sup>separation</sup> <sub>legally divorced</sub> <sup>or</sup> <sub>as a result of desertion</sub> <sup>etc.</sup> <sub>face single parenthood</sub>  
 add 1 million a year

The Difficult Responses to the Trauma of Divorce

1. withdrawal  
 not risk being hurt again.  
 presence of <sup>brother</sup> <sub>was by last best</sub>
2. self-pity, <sup>with a view</sup>  
 stand in one's light, <sup>mark</sup> <sub>our shadows</sub>
3. drink, drugs, <sup>debauchery</sup>
4. compromised moral life  
 runway " - - -"  
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God looks upon the Scriptures  
 Two kinds of solitude - separation, insulation is of a  
 - insulation is of a "being alone"  
 the difference between loneliness & "being alone"

1. "Being alone" separated by distance. Not just loneliness  
 (1) needs in one's own study, meditation, prayer  
 (2) happiness or work - can remember prayer for safety  
 travels, face to face in what he is doing  
 part in study, heart's request when necessary during

2. "Loneliness of soul"  
 sand truck, icy hill (unhappy path) in darkness  
 eye gaze, glazed look  
 would pass by, eyes away, returning  
 contact only of form with form, not soul with soul

Question is to ...

man. answer to  
 New York. Mullson. Best loneliness  
 neon, little bird girl  
 clipper, baby, No. 1

God said: Be lonely. ready state, entitled, own  
 : not good, but alone  
 Is. 68:6

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1. We are target, some single by voice, blast, not  
 personal, Jerry, Paul, Barbara  
 accounted for, members, members, servants of  
 marriage set forth plan for 17th Nov 1912  
 "... creation ..."

2. We are target myself, need to be in distance  
 divorce paper, need no further action, faculty of judgment  
 need complete, really when God?  
 (1) No distance, brief need agreement that we do do  
 a true real problem, without support, without  
 at divorce. Good, faculty of judgment, we know  
 God care, in the way? business

(2) The Spirit of Jesus  
 job 4  
 to 15 wanted with Paul's  
 no marital problem outside her

(3) We not in judgment business  
 can never know, what happens behind closed  
 eyes ideal - but of Paul, companions

2 Sunday says "... wait member even again in  
 as true man / divorce, except raise to God.  
 they stand by me -  
 they kept me together  
 they refuse me held by the power of God"

Kindness to single  
 let God work, or God's will  
 his work

9/1/80

## The Compromised Moral Life

90% formerly married { widowers } have  
had sexual relations since marriage  
broken.

Only 1 in 20 men } celibate  
1 in 14 women }

$\frac{2}{3}$  men } are sexually active after  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  women } broken marriage  
as before

The meaning: Proximity is the  
norm of life.  
The one who is celibate is the  
deviate.

: Pagan peer-pressure has  
won the day: "If it looks good, do it"  
- "If you are hungry, eat"  
- "If you have an appetite  
feel it."

II  
OVER

The woman who says "no"

1. "They tell me something's wrong with me."
2. "Usually I don't get invited out again."
3. "They call me old-fashioned. Now call me for another date."
4. "They express amazement that I hold such puritanical notions."

Among divorced in the church  
conflict between faith and proximity

1. I feel despondent after having  
been out.

2. Inner conflict tears me apart.

3. I have tremendous guilt.

4. It prevents my spiritual  
growth.

5. I worry that I won't go  
to Heaven.

6. I cry and cry and want  
even more to have back  
what I have lost.

7. I feel like a tramp.

8. I wonder why the need  
is there. I have such feelings  
of guilt and hopelessness.



Thomas Wolfe, whose *Look Homeward, Angel*, poignantly portrayed his sense of isolation, ~~also~~ wrote, "The whole conviction of my life now rests upon the belief that loneliness, far from being a rare and curious phenomenon, peculiar to myself and to a few other solitary men, is the central and inevitable fact of human existence."

ing. In still another stage drama, *The Cherry Orchard*, Anton Chekhov has Charlotta say, "I am so lonely, always so lonely. No one belongs to me, and . . . who I am, what I exist for, nobody knows."

Thus, life at best is a lonely road. Celia, in T.S. Elliot's *The Cocktail Party*, speaks for all of us. "No, it isn't

that I want to be alone, but that everyone's alone — or it seems to me. They make noises, and think they are talking to each other. They make faces, and think they understand each other, ~~and~~ I'm sure they don't."

*BUT*

## THE SINGLE WOMAN

A V<sup>m</sup> professor writing in  
a sociology magazine:

The Church's explicit & implicit  
that God's best for woman is marriage, and that a woman should be prepared to accept God's second best for her and turn the deepest disappointment into a spiritual victory. Certainly God's general pattern for living is the family. But God's general pattern is not necessarily for everyone. A Christian woman can choose to be single. Singleness offers freedom and opportunity to develop deeper friendship. A single woman need not forego the traditional "womanly" pursuits. She has the freedom to use her money as she thinks best. Yet there are dangers in being single: loneliness, selfishness. Jesus is the example to follow. The "old maid, disappointed spinster" state of mind shackles God's new life with old manacles. Jesus offers joy. WSS