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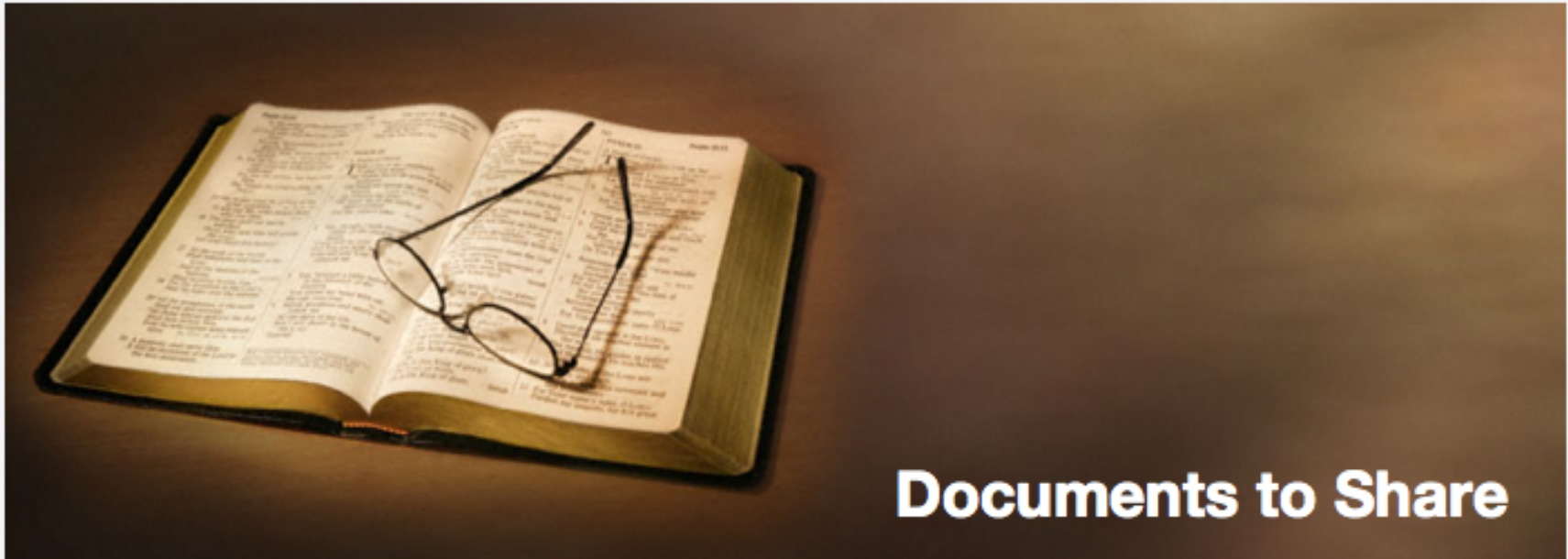
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Feel free to help yourself to anything that you might find helpful.

*Copies of Today's Notes
and Presentation*

WHY
You Say
“I Do”

The Lord Seeks a Godly Seed

Malachi 2:13-14 (KJV)

- 13) And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that he regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth *it* with good will at your hand.
- 14) Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet *is* she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.

Malachi 2:15 (KJV)

- 15) And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? **THAT HE MIGHT SEEK A GODLY SEED.** Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

Malachi 2:13-14 (Message)

- 13) And here's a second offense: You fill the place of worship with your whining and sniveling because you don't get what you want from GOD.
- 14) Do you know why? Simple. Because GOD was there as a witness when you spoke your marriage vows to your young bride, and now you've broken those vows, broken the faith-bond with your vowed companion, your covenant wife.

Malachi 2:15 (Message)

- 15) **GOD, NOT YOU, MADE MARRIAGE.** His Spirit inhabits even the smallest details of marriage. And what does he want from marriage? **CHILDREN OF GOD**, that's what. So guard the spirit of marriage within you. Don't cheat on your spouse.

The Purpose of Marriage

- A Godly Seed! **CHILDREN OF GOD!**
- God made Marriage because He wants **US** to become a **GODLY SEED!**
- God Understands That For Humans to Succeed they need **HELP**

Genesis 2:18 (KJV)

18) And the LORD God said, *It is* not GOOD that the man should be alone; I will make him an **HELP MEET** for him.

- **TOWB** = Moral Goodness - That which is Right, True and Correct

Genesis 1:31 (KJV)

31) And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, *it was* very **GOOD**. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

- It is **NOT GOOD** that Man should be alone!

Genesis 2:18 (NIV)

18) The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. **I WILL MAKE A HELPER SUITABLE FOR HIM.**”

- God provides a **HELPER** to us -
Someone who is **SUITABLE** for us

Malachi 2:15 (Message)

- 15) GOD, not you, made marriage. His Spirit inhabits even the smallest details of marriage. And what does he want from marriage? **CHILDREN OF GOD**, that's what.

WHY You Say “I Do”

- We get married because we want **HELP** in realizing our goal of being in the **KINGDOM OF GOD**
- **THAT** is why the selection of a spouse is so critically **IMPORTANT**

Malachi 2:15-16 (Message)

- 15) ... So guard the spirit of marriage within you. Don't cheat on your spouse.
- 16) I hate divorce," says the GOD of Israel. GOD says, "I hate the violent dismembering of the 'one flesh' of marriage." So watch yourselves. Don't let your guard down.
DON'T CHEAT.

Matthew 19:4-6 (NLT)

- 4) “Haven’t you read the Scriptures?” Jesus replied. “They record that from the beginning ‘**GOD MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE.**’
- 5) And he said, ‘This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.’
- 6) Since they are no longer two but one, let no one separate them, for God has joined them together.”

The Origins of Marriage

- Jesus acknowledges that from the **BEGINNING** God made Marriage
- **MARRIAGE** is just recognized as “being there”
 - Like **SACRIFICES**
 - Like **TITHING**

Hebrews 13:4 (NLT)

- 4) **GIVE HONOR TO MARRIAGE**, and remain faithful to one another in marriage. God will surely judge people who are immoral and those who commit adultery.

7 Ways Your Spouse HELPS You

1) By CHALLENGING You to Be Better

- The same things that cause you to GROW, are also the same things that DRIVE YOU CRAZY!

2nd Timothy 4:2 (Message)

- 2) Proclaim the Message with intensity; keep on your watch. **CHALLENGE, WARN, AND URGE** your people. Don't ever quit. Just keep it simple.

7 Ways Your Spouse HELPS You

- 1) By CHALLENGING You to Be Better
- 2) By Holding You ACCOUNTABLE

7 Ways Your Spouse HELPS You

- 1) By CHALLENGING You to Be Better
- 2) By Holding You ACCOUNTABLE
- 3) By COUNTER-BALANCING You

Galatians 6:1-2 (NLT)

- 1) Dear brothers and sisters, if another Christian is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.
- 2) **SHARE EACH OTHER'S TROUBLES AND PROBLEMS**, and in this way obey the law of Christ.

2nd Corinthians 1:4 (Message)

- 4) God comes alongside us when we go through hard times, and before you know it, he brings us alongside someone else who is going through hard times **SO THAT WE CAN BE THERE FOR THAT PERSON** just as God was there for us.

7 Ways Your Spouse HELPS You

- 1) By CHALLENGING You to Be Better
- 2) By Holding You ACCOUNTABLE
- 3) By COUNTER-BALANCING You
- 4) By PRAYING For You

James 5:16 (NIV)

- 16) Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is **POWERFUL** and **EFFECTIVE**.

7 Ways Your Spouse HELPS You

- 1) By CHALLENGING You to Be Better
- 2) By Holding You ACCOUNTABLE
- 3) By COUNTER-BALANCING You
- 4) By PRAYING For You
- 5) By Giving You Someone to PLEASE

1st Corinthians 7:33 (KJV)

33) He that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may PLEASE his wife.

7 Ways Your Spouse HELPS You

- 1) By CHALLENGING You to Be Better
- 2) By Holding You ACCOUNTABLE
- 3) By COUNTER-BALANCING You
- 4) By PRAYING For You
- 5) By Giving You Someone to PLEASE
- 6) By Being HONEST With You

Proverbs 28:23 (NLT)

23) In the end, people appreciate **FRANKNESS**
more than **FLATTERY**.

7 Ways Your Spouse HELPS You

- 1) By CHALLENGING You to Be Better
- 2) By Holding You ACCOUNTABLE
- 3) By COUNTER-BALANCING You
- 4) By PRAYING For You
- 5) By Giving You Someone to PLEASE
- 6) By Being HONEST With You
- 7) By Keeping You HUMBLE

The Lord Seeks a Godly Seed

- God made Marriage because He wants **US** to become a **GODLY SEED**
- God provides a Helper **SUITABLE** to helping you in this lifelong task
- **THAT** is **WHY WE SAY “I DO”**