

# Angie's Marriage Column – February 18, 2015

## TOP 5 Reasons for Divorce and What You Can Do about It!

### #3 Unbelief– Lack of Spiritual Knowledge, Wisdom and Truth

Since 2002 Year of Our LORD, our ministry has been encouraging and guiding couples to Godly marriage restoration. In that time we have come across everything imaginable when it comes to problems and issues in marriage. We will be discussing over the course of several weeks the top five reasons couple's divorce.

1. Unfaithfulness – physical and emotional
2. Alcoholism – addiction to alcohol
3. Unbelief – Lack of spiritual truth, knowledge, and wisdom
4. Feminism – confusion of roles
5. Lack of Communication/Intimacy

Chances are you have gone through one of these issues in marriage yourself or know someone who has. Now let's talk about what couples can do about these issues that almost always cause divorce and or at the very least, unhappy marriages. Today we're going to talk about "unbelief", which is lack of spiritual truth and knowledge.

Lack of spiritual knowledge is the root of all issues that cause unhappy marriages and divorce; however I think we should talk about it today as it is something that many people do not realize they are lacking in. This marriage column is not meant to offend or disparage anyone whatsoever. And I am sorry if it comes across as doing such; most of our long-time followers know I can be very candid and to the point because some things that are silenced today need to be heard. Understand

that I'm talking about people in general and not any one person personally. What we're writing about today is what we see and experience personally.

**Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. Proverbs 3:13-15 KJV**

Why do you think God says, **"Happy is the man who finds wisdom?"** Because the man who finds (Godly) wisdom is (really) a happy person! BECAUSE this man walks in the wisdom of the Lord, he is blessed in everything he does. He is blessed and happy to have the knowledge of God within Him. He is comforted and thankful at the same time to actually know God, therefore because He (really) knows God his FAITH and TRUST in God are a big part of his life.

And because this man has put his faith and trust in God, given up his own cross to follow Christ, he is blessed with wisdom and understanding. God then says that **"wisdom is more precious than rubies"**. Rubies were like gold back in the biblical days. WISDOM IS MORE PRECIOUS THAN RUBIES. And nothing a person desires can compare to (Godly) wisdom.

## **What is Wisdom?**

**Wisdom is knowledge of God; having perception and awareness of Him; Humbling your own will (through prayer and communication) and DOING God's Will; being given understanding and discernment to "live in" this world and "to love" your spouse properly, in the ways of the Lord; showing other's Christ workings in your life; and having Faith and Trust in Him, basing your actions and reactions upon His will! That's "wisdom".**

Did I leave anything out? There are two different kinds of wisdom and understanding. There is wisdom and understanding that one trust in themselves, which is what most people do when they act upon issues and circumstances going on in their lives; and then there is the wisdom and understanding that God blesses us with when we choose Him over our own selfish interpretation and

understanding. **Having Godly wisdom is believing and trusting in God with all of our heart and mind.**

**Proverbs 3:5-6 - King James Version (KJV) Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.**

The wisdom God refers to in the bible is HIS WISDOM. People often confuse worldly wisdom and spiritual wisdom, but they are two different things. The man who relies on his own wisdom and understanding is really not that wise at all. They have all kinds of problems in this life as they do not know how to (really) love their spouse properly, nor do they know how to keep from giving into their temptations, they are usually unhappy and discontented folks who behave in immoral ways to be happy. But it doesn't (really) make them happy. They may become addicted to a substance, have affairs, dresses ungodly for attention, and rely on humanistic establishments (doctors, lawyers, their sue-happy, psychotherapists, psychologists, pharmaceutical medicines, etc, etc) **rather than on God.** Oh, I could go on and on here.

When you say someone is an unbeliever you might think right away, "atheist" or "agnostic" but the truth be told, many unbelievers "go to church" and claim Christianity.

### **The Atheist Unbeliever**

A person who is lacking in spiritual wisdom and understanding is an unbeliever. An atheist is someone who is stubborn and has chosen to NOT believe in the Creator who made him, the Son who redeems him, nor the Holy (ghost) Spirit that is gifted within him. **Atheism is just stubbornness and pride that gets in the way of spiritual truths.** It's easier for them to believe we evolved from clams or monkey's BC they do not want to believe we were created by God in God's image. Ironically atheists convert over to Christianity all the time for one reason or another; usually something happens in their life to get them to finally see the light. That's a whole other subject we can cover at another time.

### **The (church) Unbeliever**

Then there is the unbeliever who *THINKS* they believe because of “what they do” and “what they have been told” but they are usually deceived souls who do NOT (really) know God through the Son Jesus Christ. The church unbelievers are worse off than the atheist unbeliever because most of them have been so deceived and that they believe they are actually saved because they 1. Go to church, 2. Get baptized, 3. Have been given Jesus Christ’ grace. 4. Say you love and believe in God.

Now, we’re not saying that doing all these things is wrong, because they are not, but to think that just because we do these things we are automatically saved is incorrect thinking. Anyone can say anything and anyone can do something for appearances sake, but not anyone can live their life (lifestyle) being “what they say” and “believe”.

Let’s talk about the four things that most people think make up a Christian. These four things were actually told to me by one of our readers about five years ago and she said because she does these things she is saved.

Now understand, I’m not saying that anyone is not a Christian; remember we are talking in generalities here. You may be a Christ-follower or you may not be. Only you know where you stand with God through His Son Jesus Christ.

**1. Go to church.** How does that sound, “I go to church”? **Why do you “go to church” when you are (supposed to be) the church?** Christ followers are the Church, which means that as a Christ-one, no matter where you are, or what you are doing, or who you are, your life is a testament of Jesus Christ living in you.

This is what being a Christ-one is all about!

**\*\*Have you lived up to God’s standard of what being a Christ- one is? \*\*** Do people SEE Jesus Christ living in you? Does your spouse SEE Jesus Christ working in you? Do your friends see the workings of Jesus through your actions and behaviors, in how you dress, and carry yourself? Are you a Christ-follower? Or just someone who says they believe in God and “goes to church”? Do you see what we are getting at here? We’ll refer back to this again in a moment.

If you have lived up to the standards of what being a Christ-one truly is then you have outgrown “going to church”. You have far surpassed the narrow-minded and often wrongly translated scriptural views that 98% of mainstream churches teach. You are now ready to “be the church”.

**But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. 1 Timothy 3:15**

**Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:5**

Spiritual understanding and wisdom is a growth process. But if you are staying stunted by “going to church” how will you grow out and “be the church”?

**For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God? 1 Timothy 3:5**

Why do folks quit going to church, do you think? Well, some of them quit because church is downright boring, not only that but some people actually “see” the deception and decide to quit going to church. Some folks say they “get nothing out of “going to church”, and that is because going to church only tells you how to be a good Christian by not doing this, not doing that, doing this and doing that but no one does any of the not’s or the do’s.

Some people have told me they do not like the way people act that “go to church”, inferring they are hypocritical and backstabber’s. Welcome to “going to church”!

**Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking. 1 Peter 2”1**

We have actually lost friendships because well, we tried to explain to our friends about how “going to church”, “doing the appearance, show thing” is not what Jesus Christ asks of us. And they stopped being our friends. So, they weren’t really our friends after all.

**Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Ephesians 4:25**

It's okay to go to church if that is what you want to do, but we have personally witnessed that some people go to church so they can get contacts/associates for their new business they are promoting; that's going to church for all the wrong reasons; it's hiding under the guise of Godliness as a way to gain self-promotion and popularity. People go to church to socialize, to show off their new clothing, to act and behave pious with one another, etc, etc.

**Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: Ephesians 4:31**

And then there are the people who actually "go to church" so they can somehow feel closer to God at a building, called church, and they worship and praise Him there. However, God is EVERYWHERE in SPIRIT and TRUTH, and that is exactly the way we are to worship Him....**in Spirit and Truth.**

**But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. John 4:23**

If it were a biblical command that a follower of Christ had to "go to church" to worship Him that would mean, he is not in our homes, place of work, cars, and here's the big one, living inside of us as a Spirit, like the bible says. It means that the only place we could communicate with God is in a place called a church. That would be strange, wouldn't it?

**You are God's Temple (Church)**

**Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?..... If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are. Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you thinks that he is wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise.**

Many folks have home-churches where they can fellowship with others and worship Christ in their homes. They study and learn and grow right from their own home, with their friends **and God is with them.**

**John 4:23- But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.**

Why do you think God said the **"TRUE"** worshippers...? What does that mean, really? Is it implying that those who "go to church" are not the true worshippers? Well, go back to this marriage column about "what are the standards of a Christ-one. What does God expect from us to be "followers of Jesus Christ"? What is having Godly wisdom and knowledge?

**Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. 1 Corinthians 3:18**

God is an omnipotent Spirit – we are to worship God through His Son Jesus Christ in our hearts and in our minds. True worshipping is not an outward show of love towards Him but our inward show of love that is reflected from how we live for Him, doing His WILL.

Anyone, even murderers can ACT LIKE THEY LOVE GOD. But not anyone can show in the way they live that they are followers of Christ.

Our love for the Father has NOTHING to do with anyone else, nor groups of other people, or what we do, **but how we live, showing God we have faith in Him as our Father.** Our relationship with God SHOULD BE the most important relationship we have, and there is no church building on this planet that can help a person gain wisdom and understanding and have a personal, growing relationship with God through Jesus Christ our Lord and SAVIOR!

**John 14:17- Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.**

Do you know Him, or do you not? It's between you and God. No pastor or minister, or deacon, or elder, or priest or mother Mary, or pope, or state SHOULD come between YOU and GOD!!!! **Do not let the deception of leadership within the church stop you from knowing and having a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.**

**John 16:13 - Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.**

**\*\*Do you live your life for God? \*\* Do people SEE Jesus Christ living in you? **Are you allowing Jesus to guide you into all truth?** Does your spouse SEE Jesus Christ working in you? Do your friends see the workings of Jesus through your actions and behaviors, in how you dress, and carry yourself? Are you a Christ-follower? Or just someone who says they believe in God and "goes to church"? Only you know the answer to that.**

**2. Are Baptized** – there is absolutely nothing wrong with being baptized, and we think that a personal spiritual baptismal with close family members and friends (not showy or ritualistic) is something people can do if they choose to do so. However people think that because they are baptized they are automatically saved, which is not how it works.

**3. Given Christ's Grace** – churches teach that everyone is given Jesus Christ's grace. If that were true than we could just go on "living in our sin(s)" whatever that may be, whether it is adultery, anger, greed, addiction, jealousy, etc, etc.

First we have to understand the two types of how a person sins and how grace works. The first type is being a slave to something such as adultery. If a person is a slave to something it means they are not living for Christ, they do not have the power of the Holy Spirit within them and this is precisely why they are controlled by sin. You see, sin is an attitude, a belief that keeps us from God. Many, many folks who claim to be Christian are enslaved and controlled by sin.



Jesus Christ pardons or redeems us whatever you want to call it with His “saving grace” when we are not controlled and enslaved by sin any longer. THAT MEANS WE HAVE TO REPENT and sin (not be controlled by it) any longer.

### **God’s Grace takes (sincere) repentance!**

To err is to be human. All Christians sin because we are human. But not all Christians are enslaved and controlled by it—big, big difference here.

**But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57**

To read more about “sin and how being controlled by it” keeps us from God, read [Slave to Jesus or Slave to Sin.](#)

<http://www.heavenministries.com/articles2/salves%20to%20Jesus%20or%20slaves%20to%20sin.htm>

**4. Say you believe and love God.** It is much, much deeper than just saying that we love God and saying that we believe in God. All Christians say they believe in God but there is a lot missing. If we truly believe than we would give up our cross, like Christ’s asks us to do, and follow Him. Believing is putting your faith and trust with God, not in anything outside of God!

**Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. Matthew 16:24**

Do you see then how being a Christ-one and believing in God through His Son Jesus Christ is a lifestyle and not what we say, or practicing ceremonial religious rites, or doing good deeds?

**To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 1 Peter 2:21**

...and that is the difference between a believer and an unbeliever.

Be Blessed through Jesus Christ!

Angie and Frank

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