

## Angie's Marriage Column ~ June 30, 2010 - 2014

### Husband Wants to Have Two Wives

**Ask Angie:** I have been married for seven years and my husband has had an affair with a girl eight years younger than me for seven years too. They now have a child together and I found out when about the relationship but he is refusing to let go of her, says the bible say he can marry two wives. What should I do? I know what to do legally but spiritually I need to know how to cope.

**Marriage Guidance:** No where in the **New Testament** does the bible approve or support the having of more than one wife. It may have been socially acceptable to have more than one wife in **Old Testament biblical times**, but God warned David and Solomon against marrying multiple wives because He knew the grief and turmoil it would cause the whole family.

**“He must not take many wives or his heart will be led astray”  
Deuteronomy 17:14-17**

Your husband is using an outdated biblical practices to justify his sin through marriage. God does not work like that. We cannot use and apply, into our life, only what we want from the bible and disregard what we don't want. Your husband is having an adulterous affair with another woman **and the bible says adultery is a sin. God says adultery is a sin and for good reason.**

In fact anyone who is “living in sin” such as adultery will not inherit the kingdom of heaven. (Galatians 5:19-21)

The foundation from which your husband wants to marry another woman, and then have two wives has started out on a sinful foundation because it was based upon lust. He did not first talk to his wife and see what she thinks about the whole thing of another woman in the home, he did not think of his wife and family before he slept with another woman and had a child...instead he disregarded one of God's laws (adultery) by putting his desires first and now wants to right that sin through having another wife!

Perhaps when he gets tired of the second wife he can have a third, fourth and fifth wife too!

The sin will NEVER be righted through marrying her because what he did, and his whole attitude and outlook for righting his situation is on the wrong foundation. [Adultery causes much hurt, pain and grief among families](#) as does the jealous dissensions involved when having more than one wife. Your husband needs to get down on his knees and ask for the Lord's forgiveness in repentance and sorrow and give up the other woman and take responsibility for the child in whatever means necessary!

Sharing her husband with other women brought much grief and suffering to king David's family and Solomon's many wives brought him and his whole family to its downfall. (See 1 Kings 11:2-14) (2 Chronicles 8:11) (2 Chronicles 8:15)

King David's many sons from his multiple wives were violently jealous of each other and caused much turmoil and grief for the family, such as murder, rape, rebellion and greedy dissensions. (2 Samuel 11, 12, 13...) Had he married but just one wife and prayed for God's help against his temptations, none of this family suffering and grief would have happened.

### **We Must Heed God's Instruction for Our Lives**

God warned him against marrying multiple wives, but he didn't listen. **Many things in life are not direct outright sin, but lead to sin eventually, as in marrying more than one wife. Or flirting with and desiring others, will almost always cause fornication or adultery in our lives. Who are we kidding? Only ourselves because God knows all of this and is why we are to NOT even LOOK at another with feelings of lust because it will result in sin!!**

Even though David had more than one wife, he still committed adultery! King David's adulterous affair with Bathsheba resulted in his family constantly being threatened by murder. (2 Samuel 11) David's unbelieving wives also slept with other men, and in a public act for all to see! David's family was in constant chaos and disorder all of the time because of his marrying multiple wives and because of his adulterous affair he had with Bathsheba. One of David's sons raped his half sister because he thought he

was in love with her, but it was lust because after he had her, he hated himself and her for what he did. (2 Samuel 13)

As we can see, **the consequences of sin, not only harm the person doing the sin but those we know and love.** [Being controlled by our desires of lust can do great harm](#) to all of those people we love and care about. Love and lust are two very different things. Love is always patient but lust requires immediate satisfaction. Love is kind but lust is harsh. Love does not demand its own way but lust does. (See 1 Corinthians 13)

Lust may feel like love at first, but when physically expressed it results in self-disgust and shame and if another person is involved, hatred of that person. [If you can't wait until marriage, what you feel is NOT true love.](#) **For all of you who are unmarried reading this, please do not let your feelings lead any relationships with the opposite sex...wait on God. If it blossoms into real love, God will make it happen for you. Don't destroy your self-worth over wrong desires of the heart. Begin your marriage out on the right foundation so as to avoid all of these problems we are now talking about.**

Today, if a man were to marry another woman without the willingness of his wife it would undoubtedly cause so many problems and so much sin within that marriage, simply because it is not something that most wives are willing to do and there would be resentment and jealousies. What kind of a man would want to hurt his wife in this way, if she is not a willing party to it? As we have already read in biblical times unfaithful and uncontrolled people did many things that God disapproved of and look where it got them?

When we [do not listen to God's warnings and instruction for our lives](#) we make our lives much more complicated and difficult than it has to be. As in the case of your husband having a child with another woman. What a complicated mess. This is the consequence of sin! We do it to ourselves!

The only way your husband can right his mess he is through repentance, forgiveness, change of heart [and the willingness to please God with his life.](#) But you cannot repent and change his heart for him. Your husband is an unbeliever. The bible explains to us in detail how we are to deal with being married with unbelievers.

Apostle Paul affirmed the marriage commitment. God's ideal for marriage is for couples to stay together, even when one spouse is not a believer. The Christian spouse, if there is one, should try and win the unbelieving spouse to Christ through how they live their own life. Paul, like Jesus, believed that marriage is a permanent situation. (SEE Mark 10: 1-9)

God sees marriage as sanctified (set apart for his purpose) by the presence of one believer.

**“And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his believing wife.” (1 Corinthians 7:13-14)**

### **Stay Focused on Jesus**

The only way anyone can cope with a situation such as this is to stay focused on Christ and stay faithful to his will for our lives. We have to realize [what is truly important](#) for our lives. God will help us to deal with our emotions, such as anger, resentment, shame and jealousy and to express our emotions in the right ways with our spouse. All we have to do is ask in sincerity for what we want and it will be given to us, maybe not in the way we expect it, but God is good!

God knows our suffering and he feels our pain. [When we pray and ask for help to end our pain, God will guide us in the way we should go](#), which may prove to be even more suffering. Sometimes we just have to wait and pray, stay strong and be patient through our afflictions. [We should never use our emotions improperly](#) with the sinning spouse because this kind of behavior does not help resolve issues such as these.

**The believing spouse must be the example of how Christ would want us to live our lives, not the way our emotions are leading us to live our lives. As hard as it may be to forgive the sinning spouse, it is what frees us of the sin in our own spiritual bank. If we do not forgive those who sin against us, how on earth can we expect Jesus Christ to forgive us?!**

In this video [Angie and Frank briefly touch on forgiving a spouse of adultery](#), even if they are non repentant as in the case of your husband. [No one says forgiveness is going to be easy](#) but once we ask Christ for help to forgive we will definitely feel a great burden lifted from our shoulders.

Spouses of adulterers may carry the burden of their spouse's sin on their shoulders for years, just because they cannot handle the emotions that come with it. Forgiveness releases these negative emotions from our heart and mind. Forgiveness frees us to be more for God, for ourselves and for others.

**“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”  
John 4:27**

Christ Ones have a purpose—you have a purpose? It may not seem like it today, nor may it seem like it next week, but God does have a purpose for you. Suffering does not destroy our purpose in life, but makes us spiritually stronger and more faithful to follow God and to fulfill our purpose. **People do not realize that when they try to live without God they are actually abandoning their purpose for which we were made!**

**“And we know that in ALL THINGS God works for the good of *those who love him*, who have been called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28) The keywords to concentrate on here are “for those who love him.”**

**When we suffer for doing good we will grow more to be more like Christ each day**

Many people are suffering in marriages because of adultery, and God is not always going to protect us from our sufferings because they can produce in us perseverance, hope, and character in the faith. Suffering teaches us many things, if we stay focused on Christ through our sufferings. This is how we show God how much we love him; it is through our trust and faith in him during our sufferings!! **“God works for the good of *those who love him*”!**

**“Consider it pure joy pure joy, my brothers. Whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking in anything.” (James 1:2-3)**

**We must heal first before we can be good examples of Christ**

Christians must put their trust and faith in God through their sufferings and eventually that suffering will turn into perseverance and that perseverance

will turn into wisdom and knowledge in God. **Applying God's wisdom and understanding into our lives is how we heal!** But if we continue to live our life under our own wisdom and understanding, we will not grow and mature in God, but fall away from God's love and forgiveness for our lives.

Pray for the sinner. [Love the sinner through principled acts of love](#) by first accepting Christ into your own life and seeking forgiveness for your sins. We certainly should not accept sin into our lives but we should learn to deal with the sin in the proper ways. It will be much easier to deal with the pain of adultery and the behavior of the adulterer when we realize they are spiritually sick. Spiritual bankruptcy is like a disease of the heart, mind and soul. If we allow it to, it will spread and keep us away from understanding God's will for our lives. But if we do something about it today, we may be able to stop the spread of spiritual bankruptcy in our lives. We can fill up our spiritual bank with Christ's love and forgiveness and be filled with abundance and blessings in our lives!

Heal yourselves through Christ! Accept Christ's forgiveness and love for yourself and then you will see the sinner with a different perspective. And then you may help the unbeliever by letting him see God working in your life. [Shine your Light!](#) This is God's purpose for the believer who is married to an unbeliever.

**“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16**

**God Bless!  
In Christ,  
Angie and Frank**

Heaven Ministries ~ Marriage Healing Ministry  
<http://www.heavenministries.com>

Heaven Ministries ~ Scriptural Romance in Preparation to Marriage  
<Http://www.heavenministries.org>

Heaven Ministries Copyright © 2002 - 2014