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Subject: mortal wives
Date: September 1, 2015 10:54:36 AM EDT
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Wives

The Word of God can not be broken.

A correct understanding of resurrected life in the restored Kingdom accounts for all of these passages. All of which are true, always were and ever shall be without change.

Exodus 21:10

If he take him another wife; her food, her raiment, and her duty of marriage, shall he not diminish.

1 Corinthians 7:1

Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. 7 For I would that all men were even as I myself. **25** Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful. **26** I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be.

Isaiah 4:1

And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach.

Luke 20:34

And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage: **35** But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: **36** Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection. **37** Now that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.

Luke 18:29

And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake, **30** Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.

Mark 10:29

And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, **30** But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life. **31** But many that are first shall be last; and the last first.

Matthew 19:29

And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

Mark 12:24

And Jesus answering said unto them, Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the scriptures, neither the power of God **25** For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven.

Matthew 22:29

Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. **30** For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven. **31** But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, **32** I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

So what are these saying?

Which of these three possibilities do you think is true? Can you pose a fourth?

1) Perhaps God changed his mind? First it was OK for a man to take multiple wives so long as he treated all fairly. But then God decided that because of the "hardness of your hearts" only one wife is allowed. Later, after that, Paul realized, (he says God didn't tell him, but he realized on his own) that not even one wife is a good idea. The hippy Jesus somewhere between Luke 18 and 20 realized what Paul would figure out later and changed His mind again about what He said in Mark 10 and Luke 18, that the resurrected are restored lands and wife and children. Later He decided that in the resurrection it will be the way Paul say, No wife ever. Mark 12 and Matthew 22

And as far as Isaiah 4 goes, that's are OT so we don't need to think about it.

Does anyone believe this?

Does the phrase "hardness of your hearts" refer to the hard harts of our ancestors, but by the time of Christ, men's hearts had grown in knowledge and maturity from a simple pastoral, tribal mentality to that of an early urban environment? If so then maybe our modern hearts are even better.

Or instead does it not say "your" hearts not "their" hearts? Christ is telling us that divorce was given for the hardness of **OUR** hearts, our hearts in the past, the time of the patriarchs and in His time, 2000 years ago and for the hardness of heart of modern readers also.

Matthew 19:8

He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.

How about this?

2) Perhaps There will be exactly equal number of resurrected men and woman so that each resurrected man has one resurrected wife. Is this consistent with all the scriptures above?

Does the passage in Exodus not apply to the resurrected in the restored Kingdom? Which wife will king David have? Was He married to more than one resurrected woman? Abigail, Bathsheba

Was Christ simply mistaken in Matthew 22, Mark 12 and Luke 20?

Are the woman of Isaiah 4 asking only for temporary shelter?

Does the advice of Paul mean that Exodus no longer applies but in the resurrection the ban will be partly lifted and the resurrected can take one wife again?

This does make sense for Matthew 10, Mark 19 and Luke 18. The passages don't actually explicitly list wife when it restates the blessings.

What about this possibility?

3) What if nothing about God's law ever changed? What if multiple wives were, are and shall always be a part of God's law? But for the "present distress" it is good that we not marry, because taking on the responsibility of a wife as Moses defines is impossible in a time when God took away good leaders and the blessings of His Law. The present distress is the end times and the punishments of God on sinful man, including the persecution of the saints brought on by the lack of God's leadership.

So its better if you can do without, or take one. But when the Kingdom is restored, prosperity and peace and the present distress is relieved and fulfilling Moses requirements for the taking care of wives is again possible. However, just as Christ declares none of the resurrection shall marry, (that only makes sense, they are brother and sister) but may take mortal woman. The example given by the Sadducees which was the question Christ was directly addressing did pose that both the man and woman are among the resurrected.

So it was also exemplified in the past. Whom did righteous men marry? Abraham was married to Sara, both of whom are expressly listed among the resurrected by Paul in Hebrews chapter 11. In the restored Kingdom, Abraham and Sara can not be married. Abraham had other wives. Mortal wives, wives that will not rise in the resurrection. All of the patriarchs, except Isaac, took mortal wives. Some of the prophets took only mortal wives. Hosea, Ezekiel. They were instructed to do so. Even the very wife of God, Israel our mother, is mortal. She, all Israelites that are not found in the resurrection shall eventually all die. Only a remnant of her children will live forever. It is mortal Israelites that live in the Kingdom and corporately call God their husband and she His people. While the resurrected call Him the Everlasting Father.

(I use the word "mortal" which means dead to refer to those who will not be found among the resurrected.) Genesis 3:20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. And Christ said in Matthew 22:32 I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob God is not the God of the dead, but of the living. And in Luke 9:60 Christ said unto him, Let the dead [mortal] bury their dead:[mortal] but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.

Consider that Paul mentions the names of 14 men and 2 woman in Hebrews chapter 11 Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Gedeon, Barak, Samson, Jephthae, David, Samuel and Sara, Rahab Of whom the world was not worthy: they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect. That is [without adding our numbers to theirs, they, their number are not yet perfect or complete.] Ephesians 1:14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

What if the women of Isaiah 4 who talk of bread and apparel are referencing the Law of marriage in

Exodus 21 food and raiment? "seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel:" "If he take him another wife; her food, her raiment, shall he not diminish."

What if being compared to the angles does not mean androgynous, (does not refer to angels being genderless so we are too) but refers instead to living for forever? Oh wait, it says exactly that. "Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels;"

And what if "they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage:" means exactly what it says? "Those of the resurrected" do not engage in marital activities with each other for they are brothers and sisters. Both husband and wife being resurrected is indeed the context of the Sadducee's question.

Then no resurrected man takes any resurrected woman for a wife, but takes mortals for concubines. If so then Exodus 4 was, is and ever shall be true. Corinthians makes sense for the present distress. Isaiah 4 makes sense just as it is written. No need to wrest words or context. It is clearly speaking of regenerated remnant men in the restored Kingdom and of woman who reference Moses in the expression of their willingness to live without the privilege of being a legal wife so long as their reproach is taken away. That is they are concubines blessed with children. And both Mark 10, Luke 18, Matthew 19 and Mark 12, Matthew 22 make common sense. Those found among the resurrected are not betrothed nor married to each other, but indeed the resurrected shall again possess "houses, brethren, sisters, father, mother, wife, children, lands," [mortal] wives and [mortal] children and property and wealth "and in the world to come eternal life."

Which of these three possibilities do you think is true? Can you pose a fourth?