

ROOTS: One is Not a Lonely Number

Today we are talking about SINGLENES

◦Single, not alone...

Ecclesiastes 4:8-12

⁸This is the case of a man who is all alone, without a child or a brother, yet who works hard to gain as much wealth as he can. But then he asks himself, "Who am I working for? Why am I giving up so much pleasure now?" It is all so meaningless and depressing.

⁹Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one; they get a better return for their labor. ¹⁰If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble. ¹¹And on a cold night, two under the same blanket can gain warmth from each other. But how can one be warm alone? ¹²A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

Psalms 68:4-6

⁴Sing praises to God and to his name! Sing loud praises to him who rides the clouds. His name is the LORD-- rejoice in his presence!

⁵Father to the fatherless, defender of widows-- this is God, whose dwelling is holy.⁶God places the lonely in families; he sets the prisoners free and gives them joy...

...God's intent is for community, and those who are single are included in the family of faith.

◦God gives the gift of marriage and the gift of singleness...

1 Corinthians 7:7

...we are not all the same. God gives some the gift of marriage, and to others he gives the gift of singleness.

James 1:17

¹⁷Every good and perfect gift is from above...

Matthew 7:11

... how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts ...

...God's gifts are good and perfect.

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◦The Intentions of the Giver

Isaiah 41:9-10

...^{9b}For I have chosen you and will not throw you away. ¹⁰Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

John 15:15-17

¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a master doesn't confide in his servants. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me. ¹⁶You didn't choose me. I chose you...

Romans 8:28

²⁸And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

...for our good and God's glory. We are chosen on purpose for a purpose...

◦Singleness may be for a season...

Ecclesiastes 3:1

¹There is a time for everything, a season for every activity under heaven.

Romans 11:33-36

...³⁶For everything comes from him; everything exists by his power and is intended for his glory. To him be glory evermore. Amen.

...A Season or a Sabbath time to reconnect with God and understand His purpose for our lives.

◦Submission brings Contentment...

1 Peter 4:11

...^{11b}Are you called to help others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then God will be given glory in everything through Jesus Christ. All glory and power belong to him forever and ever. Amen.

Philippians 4:11

...¹¹for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.

Hebrews 13:5-6

...^{5b}be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." ...

Psalms 91:1-2

¹Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. ²This I declare of the LORD: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; He is my God, and I am trusting Him.

...Contentment brings peace.

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