

*From Where I Sit . . .*

## **“Choosing A Good Companion”**

Someone has said, “We can either ‘curse the darkness’ or ‘shed some light.’” Marriage in America is in trouble! Not only is divorce skyrocketing, but the home as a God-designed institution is under attack. From the halls of secular schools— to the halls of congress – to the howls of the feminist movement, and resonating from the platform of the “gay” agenda, the obituary of traditional marriage is being prepared and propagated. If the humanists, abortionists, feminists, and gay rights advocates have their way about it, the Bible definition of what makes a home will be lost forever to mankind.

The current trend of trial marriages, and no-fault divorces may be partly attributed to a vast number of marriages wherein “holy” wedlock has become “unholy” deadlock. It’s true! Many people say, “If I had another chance, I wouldn’t take the chance!” Too often a marriage becomes like railroad tracks: lives that proceed side-by-side, but never touching, sharing, uniting — No Oneness as described in **Gen 2:23-25**.

A popular book reflects this problem in the title, “*How To Be Happy, Though Married.*” I’d like for Christians to be able to alter that phrase to read “*How To Be Happily Married,*” because we should not seem surprised at all to find that when people will yield to God’s instructions, there can be such a thing as marital bliss.

We believe in God’s design for marriage. We believe that marital-misery and missed-bliss are tools of the devil which destroy far too many otherwise successful lives. It is so important that we caution our children to set high standards, and choose companions carefully. A rule of thumb that I’ve believed in since I was 18 years old is that one should choose to marry someone who will help us go to heaven.

Granted there are many pitfalls along the road to marital bliss. Wise people know to look for these and build up fortifications against falling into the trap. My expectations may not match hers, or hers match mine. We may get so busy with our professions, or with survival, that we fail to take time for each other. We may grow apart because we didn’t allow ourselves the opportunity to grow together. Tragically, some just marry ill-advisedly. I’ve sat across the desk from young people and begged them to not get married to the other person sitting there when the danger signals for disaster were so visible that they were already tripping all over them. Some of them persisted and married against the warning. In those cases, very, very few survived.

It is so important for our young people to date the right kind of people and to choose carefully who they hope to spend the rest of their lives with. We simply must choose a good companion with which we hope to make this most important journey. Then we must take the time and effort necessary to reinforce this lifelong investment so it can bring dividends clear into our old age, and unto our children’s children.

The family should be a haven of love. Home should be a fortress against the world. Home is where love is locked in and the world of hatefulness and strife are locked out. Surely no other single influence in life has the impact for good as a strong Christian Home. May ours be Christian and dedicated to strengthening all who enter its doors.

**. . . Terry Broome**

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