

CLASS

LESSON NUMBER

289 A

THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES



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MY NAME

DATE

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FIDELITY TO CHRIST

- Definition** Fidelity is the quality or state of being faithful therefore infidelity is unfaithfulness to a moral or marital obligation; disloyalty. In religion an infidel is an unbeliever who is therefore neither faithful nor loyal to the tenets of the faith. Our Lord told the church at Smyrna: (Rev 2:10) "Be thou _____ unto _____, and I will give thee a _____ of life."
- Fidelity Means Loyalty** Moses told Joshua: (Deut 31:8) "The LORD, he it is that doth _____ before _____; he will be _____, he will not _____ thee, neither _____ thee: fear not, neither be _____." Moses couldn't enter Canaan but assured Joshua that God's immutable bond would ever be with him as he led Israel across the Jordan.
- More** The Hebrew writer asserts (13:4) that "marriage is _____ in all" and states that "whoremongers and adulterers _____ will _____." In the next verse (Paul) quotes, "for he hath said, I will never _____ thee, nor _____ thee." That's fidelity!
- OT Israel Was Married To Jehovah** The prophet reminded weak-kneed Israel of God's words in (Jer 3:14), "I am _____ to you." The word *married* literally means *joined or tied*. God cannot be disloyal or unfaithful. He expects no lesser degree of fidelity from that one to whom he is married. In physical marriage (Eph 5:33) the husband is to "so love his wife even as _____; and the wife see that she _____ her husband." The same rule applies in spiritual marriage to God. (Ps 111:9) "Holy and _____ is his name."
- The NT Church Is Married To Christ** John the Baptist identified Jesus: (Jn 1:29) "Behold the _____ of God, which taketh away the _____ of the _____." In (1 Cor 5:7) Jesus is further identified: "For even Christ our _____ - is sacrificed for _____." The NT Church is (Rev 21:9) "the _____, the Lamb's _____." We owe the same spiritual fidelity to Christ that we do to our spouse in physical marriage. Jesus demands our faithfulness.
- A Case Of Unquestioned Loyalty** Elimelech and his wife Naomi were Israelites. They had two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, who married Moabite women, Oprah and Ruth. Some years later (Ruth 1) the father and both sons died. Naomi urged her daughters-in-law to remarry but decided she would return to Judah. Oprah consented but Ruth said (V16ff), "Entreat me not to _____ thee, or to return from _____ after thee: for whither thou goest, _____; and where thou lodgest, I will _____: thy people shall be _____, and thy God _____: Where thou diest, will _____, and there will I be _____: the LORD do so to me, and more also, if ought but _____ part _____ and _____." This is fidelity!
- True To The Cause** Jesus said: (Jn 15:13) "Greater _____ hath no man than this, that a man _____ his _____ for his _____." He defined *friends* in the next verse. "Ye are my _____, if ye do whatsoever I _____ you." Jesus obeyed God's will (Heb 12:2) and "endured the _____, despising the _____" showing his fidelity to God and man.