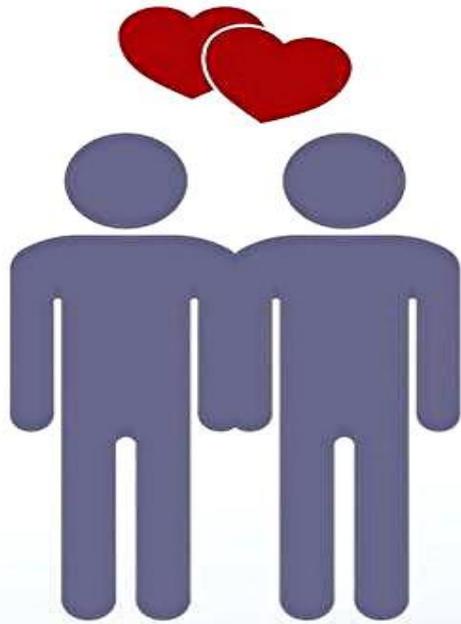


Polygamy
Marriage

Celibacy
Divorce



- Pharisees allowed polygamy
- Yeshua re-plants a stake in the ground for monogamy
- Jesus argues that monogamy began at Creation
- Polygamous marriage is an oxymoron because 2 or more people of the same sex married to one person of the opposite sex can never be “one flesh”



- Never part of Jewish culture
- Did happen in the rarest of occasions in the ancient world, but only involved demented people like Nero
- Gay marriage did not take place in the religious realm
- The Church did not originate gay marriage, but in the late 20th century some large denominations have made it holy and embraced it, causing church splits

Only 1 grounds for divorce... adultery



- Christ agrees with the Pharisees that divorce is legal
- ***Porneia*** = unfaithfulness
- In the 1st century divorce was the province of the male
- Mark 10:12 speaks of the wife initiating the divorce; he could only have been speaking to gentile cultures
- 1Corinthians 7, Paul added abandonment as another legal reason for divorce

UNHAPPINESS?

- What about physically abused wives?
- Life trumps nearly everything in the Bible
- A physically abused wife is warranted to divorce her husband
- God hates divorce, but doesn't hate the divorcee
- Irreconcilable differences = easy divorce
- NOT a legitimate reason for Believers to divorce





WHAT DOES GOD SAY ABOUT SINGLENES

- 12 Disciples say Christ's teaching makes marriage too hard, because it makes divorce too hard !!
- 3 types of Eunuchs, 3 reasons for remaining single
- 1) ***Seris hamma***, Eunuch of the sun. Since birth.
- 2) ***Seris adam***, Eunuch of man. Castrated or by injury
- 3) A man who chooses not to marry in order to serve something greater than himself

SINGLE BY CHOICE

FOR THE KINGDOM



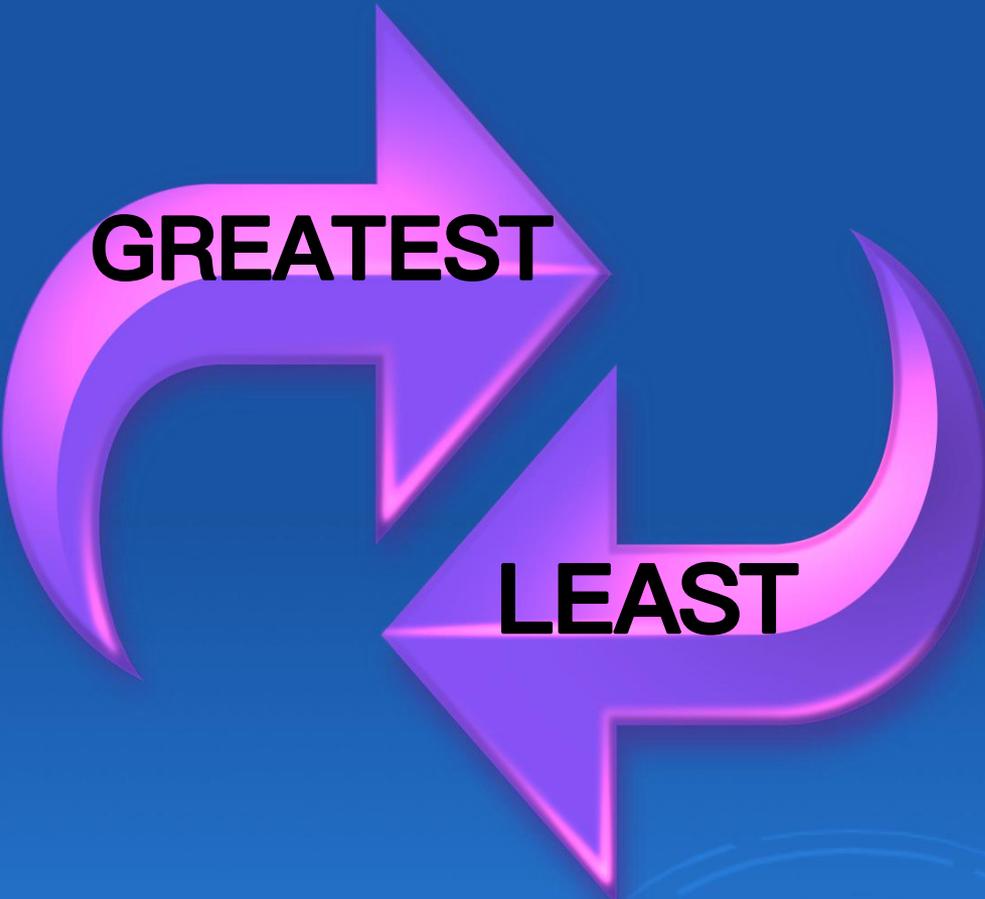
- “Those who can grasp this” = a special divine calling
- Harder to choose to be single for the Kingdom than to be married
- 1Corinthians 7:7 – 9
- Singleness brings on its own set of challenges of sinning that are different than those faced in marriage

YESHUA BLESSES THE CHILDREN



- 12 Disciples try to shoo the children away
- Men didn't have much to do with children; Christ was changing their view on the value of children to God
- Mark 10:13 "bringing children so that He might touch them..." Mark didn't know this was a Jewish blessing
- Often used as a premise for infant baptism

THE GREAT REVERSAL



GREATEST

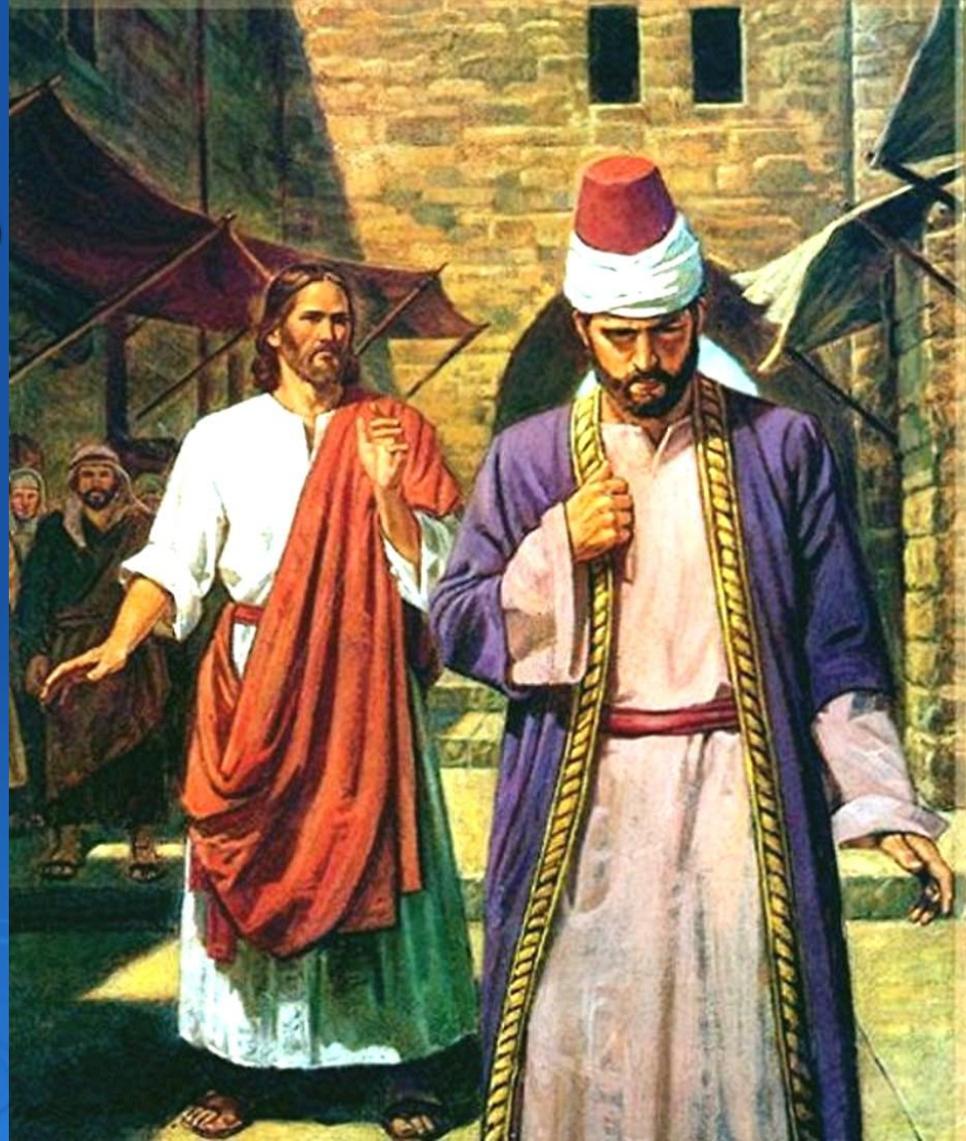


LEAST

- Mark 10:15 May refer back to Matt. 18 about who is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven
- Little children held the least status
- Greatest social status in the Kingdom held by the most humble
- Least social status in the Kingdom held by the least humble
- The “Rich Man” story is about this status issue

THE TROUBLE WITH RICHES

- Wealth, status, and the Kingdom were themes of the Sermon on the Mount
- Matthew 6:24
- Rich man wanted to know what *mitzvah* he needs to do to obtain eternal life
- What did the rich man think eternal life was?
- Whether there was an afterlife was an unsettled debate among Jews
- Yeshua says if the man wants eternal life, obey the Commandments!



THE LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR COMMANDMENTS

TABLET 1

GOD

- 1: Do not worship any other gods
- 2: Do not make any idols
- 3: Do not misuse the name of God
- 4: Keep the Sabbath holy

TABLET 2

MAN

- 5: Honour your father & mother
- 6: Do not murder
- 7: Do not commit adultery
- 8: Do not steal
- 9: Do not lie
- 10: Do not covet

- The rich man asks “which ones” he must obey for eternal life?
- Many Bible commentators say that Sabbath and other commands are dead and gone because Jesus didn't list them!
- Yeshua tells the rich man to sell everything as an exchange for Heavenly riches
- Perfection is required if doing good deeds is the standard