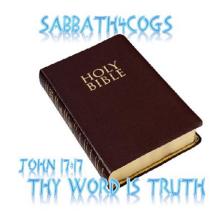
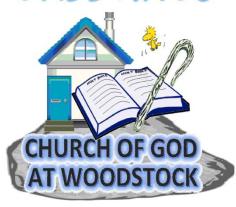
## WELCOME! SABBATH GREETINGS





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### HAPPY SABBATH!

### HOLY CONVOCATION Sabbath Day April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Exodus 20:8-11 Remember the** sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

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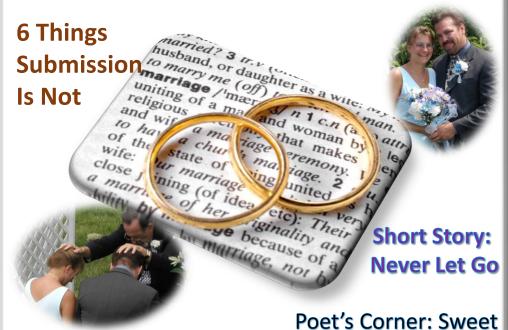
# GOD HOUSEKEEPING



THE MARRIAGE ISSUE



#### MAKE MARRIAGE CREAT AGAIN



**Taking Dating To Court** 

Sabbath Slumber

Marriage As a Witness to the World

A WEEKLY SPIRITUAL HEALTH MAGAZINE FOR SAINTS

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#### **ON THE COVER**

#### Marriage in America.

The marriage rate in America has plummeted today, only about 50% of Americans will marry. In contrast, 72% of Americans tied the knot in 1960. Divorce rates have actually fallen since the 1980s. But an unhappy couple married in 2000 would be more likely to divorce than an unhappy couple in 1960. The median age for a first marriage is up to 27 for women and 29 for men (up from 20 for women and 23 for men in 1960). June and October are the most common months to tie

The knot. **Americans** today are increasingly looking for love online. A total of 15% of American adults have used online dating sites. The share of 18- to 24-yr olds who use online dating has almost tripled in recent years, from 10% in 2013 to 27% in 2015. While marriage is in decline, unmarried cohabitation is on the rise. Fifteen times the number of couples today live together outside of marriage than in 1960. Also known as fornication, God says this is sin. What is God's view on marriage? -- EDITOR

#### **April 8 2017**

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

THE MAGAZINE SAINTS LIVE BY

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- Marriage As A Witness To The World

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• **SWEET SABBATH SLUMBER** [author Ken Hoeck]

#### **SHORT STORIES**

- 6 THINGS SUBMISSION IS NOT
- TAKING DATING TO COURT
- NEVER LET GO

**MODEST FASHION - FOOD & HEALTH** 



Marriage was instituted by God in the **Garden of Eden** at the time of man's creation as a union between man and woman

Genesis 2:18 And the LORD God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

#### MAKE MARRIAGE GREAT AGAIN

Cont'd

Genesis 2:19-20 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

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#### WAKE MARRIAGE GREAT AGAIN Cont'd

Facts the Bible Tells Us about Marriage:

1.Marriage is an indissoluble relationship [except on the highest grounds].

Matthew 19:8-9 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. And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

MAKE MARRIAGE GREAT AGAIN

: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

**Exodus 21:10-11** If he take him another *wife*; her food, her raiment, and her duty of marriage, shall he not diminish. And if he do not these three unto her, then shall she go out free without money.

2. Monogamous relationship between husband and wife as stated in the original law.



### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

#### MAKE MARRIAGE GREAT AGAIN

Matthew 19:4-6 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

1 Corinthians 6:16 What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.

(Cont'd)

#### 3. Husband and wife are equal before God

Ephesians 5:29-31 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

1 Peter 3:7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto

the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

4. The relationship is to reflect the image of God.

**Genesis 1:27** So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

#### MAKE MARRIAGE GREAT AGAIN

(Cont'd)

5. Husband is the loving head of relationship and wife is subordinate

1 Corinthians 11:8-9 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.

1 Timothy 2:13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

#### **MAKE MARRIAGE GREAT AGAIN**

(Cont'd

**Ephesians 5:21-23** Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. **Ephesians 5:24-26** Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so *let* the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

Ephesians 5:27-29 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

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**Ephesians 5:30-33** For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence *her* husband.

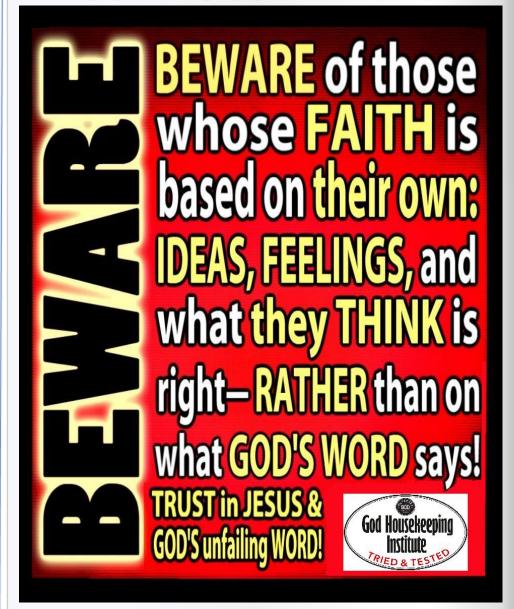
Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.

1 Peter 3:1-3 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of

(Cont'd)

plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;

1 Peter 3:4-5a But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women



(1 Pet 3:5b-6 cont'd) also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

#### **MAKE MARRIAGE GREAT AGAIN**

(Cont'd)

6. The relationship is fruitful Genesis 1:28a And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: ...

In summary, we can see that marriage is an intimate and complementing union between a man and a woman in which the two become one

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

#### **MAKE MARRIAGE GREAT AGAIN**

(Cont'd)

physically, in the whole of life.

The purpose of marriage is to reflect the relationship of the Godhead and to serve him.

Although the fall has marred the divine purpose and function of marriage, this definition reflects the Godordained ideal for marriage from the beginning.

Marriage As a Witness to the World

"By this shall all men know that you are my disciples if you have love one for another" (John 13:35). Marriage is a significant institution by which a lost world can see Christianity in action.

Marriage is the most intimate of human relationships in which husbands and wives learn to model Christ's love. Marriage is the 18-year training ground for

### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

Marriage As a Witness to the World

children so that they can also love "one another." Marriage provides a unique opportunity to reflect Him as a couple.

Marriage provides a platform for accomplishing God's intentions for mankind.

How is the Bible's view of marriage different than what the world says?

Marriage As a Witness to the World

DIFFERENCE #1: "If you're not compatible, you may have married the wrong person."

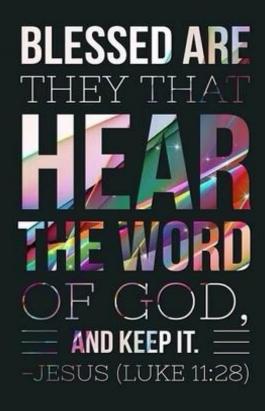
God's truth says that marriage is a covenant relationship. Once you choose to marry, it's no longer up for debate as to whether your spouse is the "right one." Marriage makes them the right one, for it's a commitment before God. It's never to be based on shifting

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

Marriage As a Witness to the World feelings, but a choice every day to love the spouse you've chosen to marry.

In a world that often prefers to "trade in for an updated version," this truth doesn't make sense. But according to God's Word it's very clear.

"Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." (Mark 10:9)



**Revelation 14:12** Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

Marriage As a Witness to the World

DIFFERENCE #2: "If you're not happy, don't stay in an unhappy situation. You deserve more."

For many of us, marriage can tend to bring our selfishness out like nothing else. We want our way. We insist on our rights. We want our spouse to make us happy, and right now!

### GOD HOUSEKEEPING Marriage As a Witness to the World

In the midst of demands, we'll never be free to truly love and serve one another. Our focus will tend to be one-sided - our side – and what we want. Yet God's goal for marriage was not just to "make us happy." The truest picture of marriage is that it symbolizes the love of Christ for us. And His desire for us all is that we be made more into the image of Himself.

### GOD HOUSEKEEPING Marriage As a Witness to the World

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not selfseeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs." (1 Corinthians 13:4-5)

**DIFFERENCE # 3: "Marriage is** a 50/50 relationship."

Marriage takes two people, fully committed, choosing every day, to love and cherish

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Marriage As a Witness to the World

50/50 will never be enough to see you through the toughest times. It's only half effort and it seeks to compare what we're doing with the other, always needing to check to see if they're keeping up with expectations. This isn't what God intends. His plan is covenant relationship, centered in Christ, loving through Christ; that is what will carry us through both good times and bad. It will take full

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** Marriage As a Witness to the World

effort of 100/100 to have a strong relationship which will thrive over time.

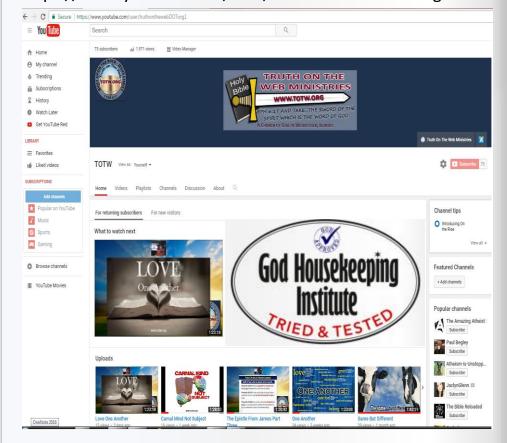
"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails..." (1 Corinthians 13:7-8)

**DIFFERENCE #4. "The grass is** greener on the other side."

The truth is, the grass is greener where it's being cared for. Where it's being watered.

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## GOD HOUSEKEEPING Marriage As a Witness to the World

The lie of our culture will whisper that everyone else has it better, or we missed out somehow. It will draw us to compare and compete, but that is **never** God's way. He desires that we cherish and love our spouse, just as Christ cares for and loves the church. If we spend more time focusing on what we have, instead of what we think we don't have, we'd be much more grateful for the treasure of His gifts.

## GOD HOUSEKEEPING Marriage As a Witness to the World

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her... and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband." Eph. 5:25, 33.

DIFFERENCE #5. "Innocent flirting or viewing pornography won't really hurt your marriage. Your spouse will never know anyway."

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** Marriage As a Witness to the World

There's no such thing as "innocent" flirting. At the root, it's seeking attention from and giving suggestive attention towards another person who is not your spouse. Run from it. Ask God to help you keep your eyes away from temptation. Pornography is a trap of the enemy and an open door for him to work destruction in your home. Don't let him win this battle. God's word says that He will always provide a way

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#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** Marriage As a Witness to the World

of escape for us, He will never allow us to be tempted beyond what we can handle. Stay close to him, honor him, meditate on what is pure, and choose respect and love for your spouse.

"Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled ..."Heb. 13:4

Marriage As a Witness to the World

DIFFERENCE #6. "Your kids should come first because they need you more."

This is a subtle lie of our culture that seeks to somehow make us feel like better, more attentive parents, when we cater to every need of our children. But the truth is, what our kids need more is to know that their mom and dad love each other. Our spouse should always have priority in our family. Through a committed, loving relationship, we're better

#### GOD HOUSEKEEPING Marriage As a Witness to the World

equipped to parent our children together. This is often hard to live out. Through various stages, kids' needs can seem constant, demanding, pressing. But God will give us wisdom to see what matters most in every busy season, to establish healthy boundaries, and to know when to say "yes," and when to say "no." "Teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Ps. 90:12

Marriage As a Witness to the World

DIFFERENCE #7. "Divorce is always an easy option."

If we enter into marriage where divorce is an "option," we're already in trouble. Because times will inevitably get difficult, and someone will start looking for a fast way out. The truth is, sadly, divorce happens. But even when it does occur, it's never an "easy option." It strikes a heavy blow to all involved. God's truth reminds us that it doesn't have the final say over our lives. He

## GOD HOUSEKEEPING Marriage As a Witness to the World

is our Healer; He gives hope and purpose for the future. No matter the struggles we might be facing, we can make the renewed choice today, that as far as it depends on us, we will not give room to that option.

"For I know the plans I have for you...plans to give you hope and a future." Jer. 29:11

Marriage As a Witness to the World

**DIFFERENCE #8. "Your** marriage is beyond repair. Once trust is broken, it can never be restored."

Many have walked through very difficult seasons of marriage. Some are still healing. Others have come through to the other side by the grace of God. Sometimes the marriage is saved. Sometimes it is not. But it doesn't change this truth -

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

Marriage As a Witness to the World

no matter what we face, God does redeem and restore. He is the God of miracles, it's His very nature, and if you find yourself still in the midst of a struggling marriage, cry out to Him for help. He can bring back to life what was dead. The power of God can give hope, a fresh start, the chance for a doover, and a new beginning. "With God all things are possible." Matt. 19:26

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** 6 Things Submission Is Not

Here are six things a wife's submission to her husband is not - based on 1 Peter 3:1-6:

- 1. Submission does not mean agreeing with everything your husband says.
- 2. Submission does not mean leaving your brains or your will at the wedding altar.
- 3. Submission does not mean avoiding every effort to change a husband's mind or change a husband into a more godly one.

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** 6 Things Submission Is Not

- 4. Submission does not mean putting the will of the husband before the will of Christ.
- 5. Submission does not mean that a wife gets her personal, spiritual strength primarily though her husband.
- 6. Submission does not mean that a wife is to be motivated by fear and a desire to avoid harsh consequences

## GOD HOUSEKEEPING Taking Dating To Court

The fight sometimes arises in Christian circles between **DATING and COURTSHIP.** The subject can be a real touchy subject among Christians of all ages and flavors of denomination. Most of the time these are a war of words - merely *semantics* - but this is something every believing parent, young adult and teen should know about.

## GOD HOUSEKEEPING Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

In the Merriam-Webster
Dictionary only one of the
definitions refers to the social
dating experience and two to
courting between two seeking
marriage - lets read them into
the record.

Main Entry: date Function: noun Etymology: Middle English, from Anglo-French, from Late Latin data, from data (as in data Romae given

**GOD HOUSEKEEPING** Taking Dating To Court (cont'd) feminine of Latin datus, past participle of dare to give; akin to Latin dos gift, dowry, Greek didonai to give Date: 14th century 4 a: an appointment to meet at a specified time; especially: a social engagement between two persons that often has a romantic character b: a person with whom one has a usually romantic date

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## GOD HOUSEKEEPING Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

Main Entry: court Function: verb Date: 1567 transitive verb 2 a: to seek the affections of; especially: to seek to win a pledge of marriage from: to perform actions in order to attract for mating <a male bird courting a female> intransitive verb 1: to engage in social activities leading to engagement and marriage 2 of an animal: to engage in activity leading to mating

As you can see, the dictionary definitions are similar and at one time in history were thought of

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

the same (notice the Latin root of the word DATE referring to DOWRY or price paid for a BRIDE to be).

Dictionary definitions and common cultural meanings can vary greatly and that is where the problem comes in. The cultural meaning today of DATING is more related to emotional and sexual experimentation and gratification. Courting maintains its identity as when young

### Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

men and women seek each other out, under their parents' or guardians' supervision, for the purpose of finding a spouse.

What does the Bible say on the subject? Well, you won't find the two words used anywhere in the text but don't think God is silent on the subject matter!

Our God designed relationships to operate in COVENANT. A covenant is a pledge/commitment/contract that cannot be broken.

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The danger of the casual dating common today is that two young people relate, spend time together, share things of the hearts together -- with no lifelong commitment ... with no covenant. Although today's dating may eventually lead to marriage, it is **not intended** to lead directly to marriage. The main motive behind dating is to fulfill some kind of physical or emotional attraction;



### Purpose and Values

**Our Purpose** To glorify God and enrich lives as we deliver the most trustworthy source of power to the world – now, and for generations to come.

**Our Values** 

**LOVE.** Treat others like you'd want to be treated. **SERVANT'S HEART.** Lead with what people need. **EXCELLENCE.** Do great things with the gifts you've been given.

**COURAGE.** Learn, improve and boldly drive change that matters.

FUN. Work hard, laugh often.

TEAM. Together, we're better.

**INTEGRITY.** Be who you are and live up to your commitments.

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

which lends itself eventually to seeking sexual stimulation and satisfaction. This is warned against as sin not becoming God's People. Ephesians 5:3 "But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;"

The Biblical basis for courting is found in the Bible in word, principle, and example. God sets

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

the rules/boundries in His Word in many places and we share only a choice few here today:

1.) Proverbs 18:22 "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD." In this passage, clearly the word "findeth" implies a purposeful seeking & searching process to the end goal of obtaining a spouse.

### GOD HOUSEKEEPING Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

2.) \*Deut. 7:3 "Nor shall you make marriages with them. You shall not give your daughter to their son, nor take their daughter for your son. 4 "For they will turn your sons away from following Me, to serve other gods; so the anger of the LORD will be aroused against you and destroy you suddenly."

In the bible, parents are shown to be involved in supervising the arrangement of their children's

## GOD HOUSEKEEPING Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

marriages.

3.) 1Cor 7:39 "A wife is bound by law as long as her husband lives; but if her husband dies, she is at liberty to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord."

2Corinthians 6:14 "Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?"

These two verses show that a NON-BELIEVER cannot, by God's own

### Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

standards, ever even be considered as potential 'dating/courting' material. No exceptions allowed! (see also #2\* & #4 \*)

4.) Biblical examples of how relationships are built upon covenantal grounds may be found by looking at: Adam and Eve, Isaac and Rebekah or even Christ and the Church.

Genesis 2:24 "Therefore a man

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." Matthew 19:5 "and said, `For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? 6 "So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

Any concept of grace that makes us feel more comfortable sinning, is NOT Biblical grace

## GOD HOUSEKEEPING Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

Genesis 24:2-4 And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh: And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell: But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

During 'the dating game', one can develop an attitude that says, "If it doesn't work out, I'll just find someone else." This is not God's plan. God does not want you to commit to relationships unless you intend to keep the vow.

Questions to ask yourself:

Does this glorify God? Can I thank God the Father for this? Can I do it this Jesus' name? What would Jesus do?

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING** Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

Parents: Set a good example for your children. Teach them what the bible says and help them look for the right qualities in a suitor. Do not let them entertain the idea of a non-believer - it is unacceptable. Young Adults: Keep yourself pure. No intimate touching or kissing do not place yourself in a position of temptation or where you may be taken

### GOD HOUSEKEEPING Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

advantage of. Remember that God knows the right person for you - you don't. Its okay to have boys that are friends or girls that are friends (platonic) but not to have a "boyfriend" or "girlfriend" outside of courting for marriage. That is the bible way!

1Corinthians 6:18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body,

## GOD HOUSEKEEPING Taking Dating To Court (cont'd)

but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

2Timothy, 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts;

#### **COURT ADJOURNED!**



SELAH

#### GOD HOUSEKEEPING NEVER LET GO

There are many dangers and subtle doctrines seeking to pull the saints away from the worship of God and the redemption available only through Jesus Christ. Be wary and hang on tightly to your Savior. These times require us to be vigilant.

#### **WRESTLE MAN&YAH**

We can learn from Jacob (Gen 32:24-32) when he wrestled with the 'man' until the

#### GOD HOUSEKEEPING NEVER LET GO

daybreak. Jacob told the Holy One "I will not let go of you until you bless me!" and there was his named changed from Jacob (deceiver) to Israel (he who strives with God and prevails). We must be like Jacob and never let Him go until we receive his great blessing upon his return for His saints. Keep fighting the good fight and contend for the faith once delivered and you will not stand before Him ashamed.

#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**

# 2017 Annual Holyday Dates

Passover	Wed April 12
Unleavens	Thurs April 13 - Wed 19
Pentecost	Sun June 4
Trumpets	Fri Sept 22
Atonement	Sun Oct 1
Tabernacles	Fri Oct 6 - Thur 12
8th Day	Fri Oct 13

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\*each month shall be confirmed by sighting of new moon is Israel



### Sweet Sabbath Slumber



Sweet Sabbath silence, One summer's day eve. The stress of the world, Behind me I leave.



All needed was prepared, In the prior day's time. The cares of provision Released from my mind.



The saints in the household Come together to pray. To ask the Lord's Favor On His Holy Day.

From blessed Scriptures The reading of verses Thanks for His blessings Deliverance from curses.

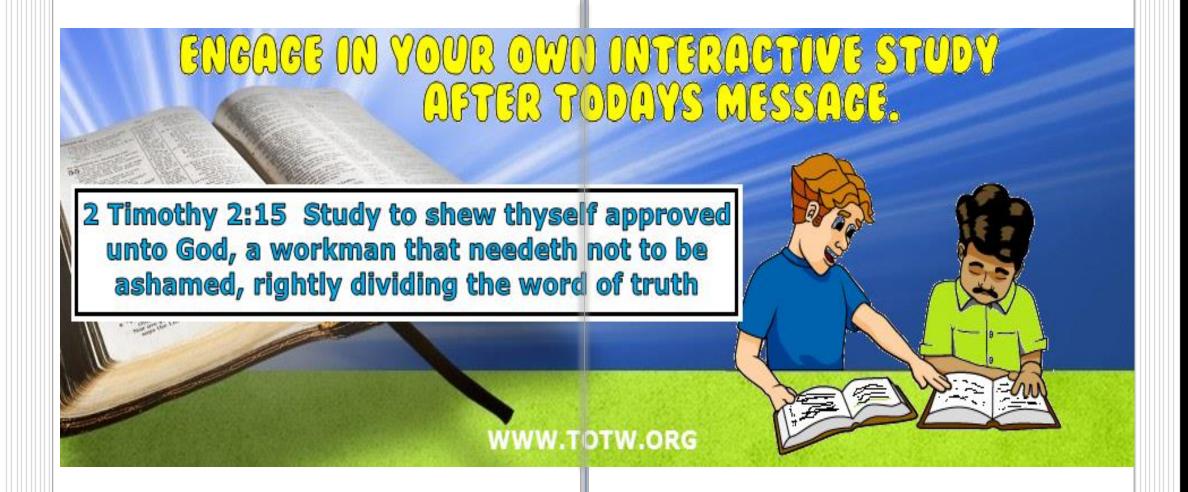


I count, rather than sheep, Blessings beyond number And rest on my pillow Sweet Sabbath slumber.

**KENNETH HOECK- 2014 - WWW.TOTW.ORG** 



#### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING**



### **GOD HOUSEKEEPING VOL 3**

HAPPY SABBATH DAY!

**KEEP IT HOLY!** 

HAPPY SABBATH DAY!

**KEEP IT WHOLLY!** 

HAPPY SABBATH DAY!

**KEEP IT HOLY!** 

HAPPY SABBATH DAY!

**KEEP IT WHOLLY!** 



