

Part 1 - Thorns - What If I want a Man and Sex

Sermon Title: **Part 1 - Thorns - What If I want a Man and Sex**

Sermon Number: **5909**

Speaker: **Nathaniel Bronner**

Link to sermon audio - <http://www.theonlineWord.com/mp3/5909.mp3>

Link to sermon video - <http://theark.s3.amazonaws.com/vid/5909.mp4>



BrothersOfTheWord.com

Nathaniel Bronner: Sometimes people, you will get a warning whether it be in the natural or the spiritual and particularly women, you got to listen when you get that warning.

Female: You are listening to brothersoftheword.com. This is part one of the series titled, "Thorns" subtitled, "What If I Want a Man and Sex" by Nathaniel Bronner. This message is number 5909.

[Music Playing: 00:00:21 - 00:00:33]

And now for Thorns part one, What If I Want a Man and Sex.

Nathaniel Bronner: Welcome to Brothers of the Word because brother, you need the Word. And today I'll begin a series. It's actually based off of second Corinthians, chapter 12, beginning with verse seven. I'm going to read this from the NIV version. To keep me from becoming conceded because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me, but he said to me, My Grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses so that Christ power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults and hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Four months ago, God says, once you finish the series on the mission statements, you are to speak on the seven thorns of life. And my youngest son, George and I every Tuesday at 5:00 a.m. we pray together. George actually prays with everybody in the house on different days, but Tuesday is our day. So, five o'clock in the morning we meet and we pray and George has never missed a day and he's never been late. I am. I haven't been late. I just forgot. And Tuesday morning I'm usually up at five, but I have to remember on Tuesday it's George's day to pray with George, and I missed three Tuesdays. I'm praying and I forget and I get a text from George so I'm going back to bed. And I said, "Oh, my goodness, I forgot about it."

So, actually I had to set my alarm to where the ring tone is actually George. So, when I hear my alarm that goes off at 4:45, it begins with George and I know this is the day I pray with

George. I haven't missed it since then. So, here I am, sitting there with George in the middle of prayer and I hear God speak. I want you to ask George what are the seven thorns of life. And I said, "George," I said, "I'm going to speak on my next series on the seven thorns of life. What are the seven thorns of life? And George instantly rattled them off. He says, relationship, finance, health, work, faith and spirituality, the carnal battle of what you want to do and fortitude to be able to hold up while you're having thorns. Those were the seven.

And so, I'm beginning today in order that George spoke them with the first one today being relationships. Now see, Paul never mentioned what his thorn was. Theologians have speculated it over the centuries, you know, what was Paul thorn? Nobody really knows what his thorn was. He just didn't say what it was. People have speculated it must have been this. It must have been that. Nobody knows what Paul were dealing with. It's just like I see all of you out there now looking so pretty. Nobody knows what you're dealing with. And some of you are out there just looking just as peaceful, just as pretty, just as beautiful and you really dealing with something. And no one knows what you dealing with.

To be honest about that, I got some stuff I'm dealing with. You all didn't know what I'm dealing with. So, you don't know just like with Paul. All you know was Paul had a thorn, and he pleaded with God three times to take this thorn away from me, and God wouldn't take it away. Some of you with some of the stuff that you're dealing with, you pleaded with God to take this thing away, and God won't take it away. So, Paul had a thorn that none of us know what exactly the thorn was. But this is what we do know about the thorn that Paul had.

Number one, it was given for purpose. Even though it was a Messenger of Satan, God said, "No, no, no. This is for purpose. I'm sending this. This is for purpose. So, number one it was given for purpose. Number two, it was a messenger of Satan, but it was allowed by God.

00:04:59

So, the thorns that many of us face, they have a purpose that's beyond what we can immediately see. And number three, God refused to remove it. It had a purpose. It was allowed by God,

and God would not take it away. And the Bible never says whether he ever took it away, my guess as Paul died with that thorn. He never took it away. But it had purpose, it was allowed by God, and God would not take it away.

So, as we deal with just thorns and so many of us did have these things in our lives, thorns are technically cold prickles in botany. That's a technical term. It's a prickle. That's why I mentioned in the Bible when you kick against the pricks that's against the thorns. But thorns are beneficial to a plant. I want you to put up the first slide. This is actually at my office and right in front of my office is a huge cactus tree. I park right behind that every single day that I go to work. So in front of my car that I look at it's a pile of thorns. But the thing about it, those cacti, the thorns that are on the cacti leaves they protect the cactus, because plants won't be eaten by animals if they're full of thorns.

And during certain times of the year, that cactus plant will bloom with this beautiful red fruit called prickly pear fruits. But you can't get to the fruit without some real thick gloves on because the thorns on the leaves of the cacti and the fruit got these thorns on. The fruit is super healthy for you. And we have people who come to the office and ask, can we get some of those prickly pear fruits? And we'll tell them, yeah, but when you come to get these big old thick gloves because you got to have big thick gloves to get the fruit, then you got to peel the fruit really carefully because the fruit got all these thorns. Sometimes good stuff is surrounded by thorns and they're not easy to get to. So, thorns have a purpose, even in nature.

So, the first one in this series that George spoke, relationship. Now, the first relationship in the Bible was between God and man. The second relationship was between man and the garden. It was his job. He had the plants. He had the animals. He named all of the animals. That was his job. So, the second relationship was between man and the gardener otherwise his job. The third was between man and woman. The fourth was between the woman and man and the serpent. The fifth was between parents and children, and the sixth was between siblings.

Now these were the first relationships outlined in the Bible and today we have problem with all six of those relationships.

There's a problem with the relationship between God and man. Man just won't do right. It's not that God has changed, it's not that God is not clear, man just won't do right and he's not done right since the very beginning. So, if there's an issue between man and God. There's an issue even between man and the garden. Man is poisoning and polluting the earth. That's what the whole environmental summit is about. You know the U.S. recently withdrew from the Paris Accord. It has to do with trying to protect the environment because man is poisoning the garden, just polluting it and all that kind of stuff. The water gets polluted. The air gets polluted. Man destroys and pollutes the garden. So, man has even had a problem with being a good steward over what he was placed with just in the garden.

And then the third between man and woman. I often wondered why that God give man the woman and the man was happy to start with. He hadn't had a problem. He was in the garden. He's living forever. You know, he had a good job. He would never be going to die. He never got sick, you know, he was just happy. And God is not good for the man to be alone. I said, Man, if not good for who? The man was in paradise. So, I'm saying to myself, did he just need a woman for entertainment? For the angels? I mean, Adam seemed to be quite content, quite happy, but God gave him the woman.

And this is what you have to think about now. This was absolutely the most perfect relationship in history. This was a custom-made woman. You know how it is when you get a custom-made suit? When you get a custom-made suit by a really good tailor, everything fits. You don't have to worry about your pants just being a little too high like these pants. You know they're kind of a little bit too long. You don't have to worry about that when you have some custom-made pants. They fit you exactly for the way you are right then, when you were measured for it.

Adam had a custom-made made woman. This was the most perfectly tailored woman in all of history. She was custom made just for him by God himself. What better could you get in that? She was a custom-made woman. But yet, this relationship got Adam booted out of the garden.

Now, there's a whole lot of all the stuff behind that you can deal with and each one of these six relationships can be a whole message all in itself. But I'm getting to a point dealing with these relationships. Relationships introduced an issue from the very beginning a man on this planet. They introduced an issue, and the issue still has not been resolved yet. So, each one of these six relationships, I'm going to primarily deal with romantic relationships, because when I say relationship, that's what most people's mind goes to. It doesn't go to the relationship between man and God. It doesn't go to the relationship between siblings. It doesn't go to the relationship between you and the earth. It goes to romantic relationships whenever you talk about relationships.

Then I was recently asked a question, and basically, the question simply was that, what do I do, how do I find a man I want to get married? And my answer was, well first of all, you might need to get it through your head that you might not find that man and you might not marry. And that created a little bit of a stir. So, I was asked a follow up question, and I said, I'm going to answer that question in this message to date. And the question that I was asked was, how do you know if you were selected to be the one that will not be married? And what if that is not your desire that you desire to be married and you want a physical relationship?

That's a good question. Let me rephrase that. How do you know if I'm selected not to be married? And if that ain't what I want to do because I want a man and I want to have me some sex, what do I do? Let me rephrase it. So, I have to put it where it's real clear. Yeah, maybe that's a destiny. Yeah, maybe -- what if that's not what I want? I want to be married, and I want me some sex. What about that? That's the question. So that's the question that I'm going to deal with. Then I had to put it real clear. Sometimes, you know, we got all this eschatological(ph) stuff, and it's deep. No, no. I'm putting it real clear what you understand it. Yeah, even if that's my destiny, what if I don't want to do that? I want me a man. I want to be married, and I want me some sex. What about that?

Pastor, what do I do if that's the way I feel about it? So, that's what I'm going to deal with it today is what -- and this question, it was asked by a woman, so I'm going to kind of relate as best I can to the woman's perspective in this and to understand some

things about this because it's a real deep thing. Now, I want you to play the video that I had.

[Video Playing 00:12:57 - 00:13:13]

She wanted a man who is educated, ambitious, an enterprise. Play the video again because you need to hit this from the top one more time. Play that from the top. It's real.

[Video Playing 00:13:24 - 00:13:47]

That's real. See, the first (00:13:50) that you have is often the kind of person who we want, who is in the available pool. Now, let me kind of make some things clear. Sherlock Holmes says this, he said that man as an individual is an insolvable puzzle, but in the aggregate, he becomes a mathematical certainty. What that means is simply this, statistics will never tell you what's going to happen to one person. It will never tell you what's going to happen to you. But if you take a thousand people, you can pretty much accurately predict it down to within 2% of what's going to happen.

So, when you look at statistics, that has nothing to do with the individual. It has nothing to do with you because you can defy statistics. For example, if I believe I'm going live to 116, that's way, way beyond statistics. That has nothing to do with statistics, because based on statistics, that's just not going happen. The oldest man on the planet right now is probably 114. So, you don't even have anybody that old, even living right now. So, I'm talking about living way beyond a statistical probability. So, statistics have nothing to do, particularly with you. They only affect a large number of people in general.

00:15:03

So, when you go talking about marriage, first of all, let me explain to women the stats on marriage, to be honest, are not good. The American Psychological Association states that approximately 40 to 50% of all first marriages end in divorce, 40 to 50%. Second and third marriages, the stat is even worse and each time you are married, the percentage on the stat get worse and worse and worse. So, you're talking about as a general average, half of the people who marry are going to end up in divorce. That's just a raw, straight fact and has nothing to do

with the fact you in church because the church has a higher divorce rate than the world. Yes, it does. So, that's number one. Fifty percent of all marriages are going to end in divorce but that has nothing to do with you. That's just a stat.

I remember reading several decades ago in a USA Today article. They did a survey and they surveyed married couples who had been married 25 years or more. They asked them one question. If you could marry the same person all over again, would you do it? Fifty percent of the people who had been married for 25 years or more said no and 50% said yes. So, half of the people who did not divorce but who had stayed married would marry that same person all over again. So, if you wouldn't do something all over again, that's not a good sign. So, you got half a fold divorce and half a fold would marry that same rascal(ph) or that same woman all over again. So, three out of four statistically, marriages are not happy and they're not fulfilled, and they don't have joy.

Now, that has nothing to do with you. If you're single, look at the person -- even if you're married, look at their wife. They had nothing to do with me. They had nothing to do with me. But three out of four people who do marry are fundamentally not happy with the marriage. So, that's the first thing you need to understand. So, when I told a woman, I said, look you just might not get married. Statistically, that's not a terrible thing, because three out of four folks are not going to be happy if they do get married. And you have to understand that it doesn't put a negative cloud on marriage but you do need to understand that if you are not different from the average, if you don't have a different mentality, if you don't do something different, you're going get what everybody else gets.

So, you need to have a different viewpoint about this thing. You just can't say I need to marry, because I just want me a man. I want a man or I want a woman. And if I get me a man or I get me a woman, I'm going to be happy and I'm going to be fulfilled. That's a lie. It's a three out of four probability that if you do the same thing that everybody else does, it's a three out of four probability, you will not be happy in that marriage. So, that's the one of the first things you need to understand. If you are single, that's not a death sentence. That does not mean you're not going be happy. That does not mean you're going to be full

of joy. And if you are married, that doesn't mean you're going to be full of joy.

So that's why the first thing -- look, it may not be your destiny. You may not get married and if you don't get married, that's not necessarily just a terrible thing. And you can say, well, pastor, that just stats in the modern world. That's just a modern world. You know, you got all these myths in the world. That's just a modern world.

Let me reach you Matthew chapter 19 beginning in the third verse. Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason. "Haven't you read?" Jesus replied that at the beginning, the creator made their male and female and said, for this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife and the two will become one flesh. So, they are no longer two. Therefore, what God have joined together let man not separate.

Why, then they asked, did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away? Jesus replied, Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard but it was not this way from the beginning. I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife except for marital unfaithfulness and married another woman commits adultery. The disciples said to him, if this is the situation between a husband and wife, is it better not to marry? Jesus replied, "Not everyone can accept this word but only those to whom it has been given for some of humans because they were born that way.

00:20:01

Others were made that way by men and others have renounced marriage because of the Kingdom of heaven. The one who can accept this should accept it. They were divorcing in Jesus's day. They were divorcing in Moses' day. It ain't nothing new. Folk been having relationship problems from the beginning to the end. What you have to decide is this. You have to decide I'm going to have a good relationship, and I'm going to do the things that are necessary to have a good relationship and this is the big thing you have to understand. I cannot follow the crowd because the crowd result is not good.

One of the things that follow in the crowd is this and you hear this. And I even heard some other preachers recently. A marriage should be equal, and the man and the woman are to be equal. Where that lie coming from? And see, that's one of the big issues. You don't go into a marriage -- let me explain. So, first of all, you deal with just the word of God and some people say that old fashioned, it needs to be equal. No, just one right in this world is equal.

The church is not equal. What do you mean? You got somebody in charge? Now, there's three pastors up here, but you got to have one in charge. Your government is not designed where you got two equal leaders. You got a president, you got a vice president. No company is designed, especially if it's any size. Now, you may just have -- it's only two foot, but no. Generally, in a big successful company, it has a hierarchy of leadership. So, nothing in the world that works properly is designed. Nature is not that way. Even with a pack of wolves, you got an alpha. You got a leader. So, it's not designed for stuff to be half and half. It's just not.

So even when you walk into something, you know, I'm going to go into that with my hub and me and my hub are going to be equal. More than likely that's not going to work. In some cases, maybe so but you don't base your life on some rare cases. It is not that way by nature. It is not that way by God. It is not that way by any corporate American -- corporate America understand, you can't run a company based on equality with it. Somebody got to be in charge. When you got a tough decision to make, someone has to have the final say so and the final decision. It does not mean that just, you know, a lot of men take this out. I'm in charge here. You got to do, I'm in charge. You got to do everything I say. But you do have to have somebody who's in charge.

And I'll tell women this when the Bible talks about submission, submission simple means under mission. First of all, the man got to have a mission. And before you marry the man, you need to see what that man's mission is. And if you don't like his mission, you don't need to be under a mission. So, it's as simple as that. A lot of times we're disillusioned that's why a lot of the stuff is busting up because you think it's all supposed to be even. It has never been like that, not natural, not spiritual, not corporate, not anything that's well run in this world is done on

an equal basis. Somebody is in charge and based on the Bible, the man is supposed to be in charge.

That's why from the beginning, if the man had taken authority, he probably would not be out of the garden now. And the Bible says Adam was not deceived. Eve was -- Adam was not deceived. So, when Eve brought him to fruit, Adam should have said sweetheart I'm sorry but I can't eat this. Instead, Adam said when God asked him with the woman you gave me, he was right by that. He was right. The woman that you custom-made for me, and I didn't have no choice in it. He didn't get it. It ain't like I had 3, 4 women to choose from. It was a one woman. So, the woman you custom-made for me gave me this fruit. And I did eat thereof. That's what he said.

But God put Adam in charge. And if Adam had taken charge, I don't know what would have happened if Adam said, Look, baby, I understand all this but sweetheart, look, I see you ate the fruit, but God told me not to eat just fruit. I'm not going to eat this fruit. I don't know what would have happened, but that's not what Adam did. He gave up the authority that God gave him. He said okay, baby, you ate it and you said to me to eat it so looking pretty good to me anyhow, I'm going to go ahead and eat it. That's what happened. So, from the very beginning, things got out of order and they listened to Satan and not God.

So, if you don't want to be in that three out of four, then you got to do something that's different, then everybody else or else you're going to get what everybody else has gotten and what they have been getting since the beginning of time this issue of that three out of four. That's been here a long, long time. So how do you become the one out of four? How do you become the 5% of people period who are fulfilled in life? How do you become part of that group, particularly dealing with relationships? How do you do that?

00:25:04

Now, the person who has a thorn was Paul. Paul says this in first Corinthians beginning in 7:1. He said, "Now for the matters you wrote about, it is good for a man not to marry." Now, this is Paul. "But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman, her own husband." Now understand, Paul wrote most of the New

Testament. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife and likewise, the wife to the husband.

Let me break that down with the me. If the woman want sex, the man needs to give it to her. If the man want sex, the wife needs to give me. That's what he means by marital duty. There's not much else you can just get everywhere. You can get your food; you have a maid come in and clean up the house. The only thing that their wife can do that anybody else can't or the house is sick. That's the only thing. You can get somebody to come in and do all the other stuff. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to the wife and likewise, the wife to her husband.

Now, the thing is, Paul says this, some of you all want to get married so you can have a physical sex. But what happened if you don't get no sex. You've been married about five to ten years, and all of a sudden sex be gone. The man come in and tell her babe I'm tired or I don't work anymore. Now, this is real. Because as the health of America gets worse and worse, some stuff just doesn't work anymore. So, it doesn't work anymore or all of a sudden, the wife tells him I'm tired or she's sick or all kind (00:26:37) just happen. So just because you get married and you get married, thinking that now you're going to get all the sex in the world and five to ten years later, you just ain't get nothing.

So, now you got to re-gear yourself some kind of -- and two biggest causes of divorce, money is number one and sex is number two. So, those are the two biggest causes of divorce. So, when people get married and they think they're going to get all this sex and down the road, it's just not like what they thought it was going to be. So, here Paul says he said, due to each other, what you want to be done, do them. That's not about the size. But I remember that old Bobby Womack song. You got to give her what she wants, when she wants it, where she wants, how she wants it and every doggone time she feels she needs it.

That's what Paul basically said. It was a Bobby Womack quote. But that's basically Bobby Womack got there from Paul. You got to give her what she wants, when she wants it, where she wants, how she wants it and every doggone time she feels she needs it. Yeah, he got that from Paul. The wife's body does not belong to her alone, but also to her husband and the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone, but also to the

wife. This stuff gets deep. The other thing about you getting married the body is change. The body's changed. So, now you got this perfect body just fine. Just the way you like them. Ten years later, the body is the same. (00:28:02) the same. So, now you're looking at it, and it's nowhere close to the same. So now you got this issue. The body is not the same. It's yours but what you're getting, you don't want it anymore. This is real. So, you got to get married with the concept in mind, the bodies may not stay the same.

This man got a six pack now, but once I get this man, that six pack turns into a beach ball, then what? Then what? This is real. After a couple of children, the Coca-cola bottle is now a two-liter bottle. Now, what? This is real. So, the body is yours, but it's not the same. So, you have to deal with this kind of stuff. So, when you get married, you got to go into it with the mindset. If this man changes, or if this woman changes, it's still mine.

I remember I went to a friend of mine to buy a car, and he got this used car and the man says, no warranty on this car. He said let me put it real clear to you. So, you understand there's no warranty on this car. If you buy this car and you drive it off this lot, you take it off the lot, and you get ten feet off this lot and the card just completely breaks in half. He said both (00:29:30). So, if you marry that person and that body completely changes, the whole thing is yours. And that's what a lot of people don't understand now they got and it's totally different from what they got. So, these are some of the things that are just real. Do not deprive each other, except by mutual consent and four times so that you may devote yourself to prayer. Now, most of the time, when folk are depriving themselves, again, he's talking about sexual stuff.

00:30:01

When most of the time people depriving themselves, they ain't praying. They ain't praying. They're doing everything else but they're not praying. They come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. I say this as a concession, not as a command. I wish that all men were as I am but each man has his own gift from God. One has this gift another has that.

Now, to the unmarried and widows I say, let me repeat that. Now, to the unmarried and the widows, I say it is good for them to stay unmarried as I am. But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry for it is better to marry than to burn. Now, that's Paul. So, Paul, he said to the unmarried and to the widows, I tell you, it is better to stay as I am. So, when I told the lady that you may not get married, there is a statistical probability particularly if you are a black, educated female. The men are just not in that heavy of a supply to be perfectly honest about it. The majority of black households are female headed. There is no man in the house.

So, you need to be really careful about who you get. You need to understand some things. And even if you do get married, you need to be prepared that things might not work out in Cinderella land like you think. You may have some challenges with. It's not men. You're going to have some challenge. The question is how deep they're going to be. And you don't want to become one of those three out of four. You want to be one of the one out of four who can say, at the end of 25 years, I would marry this man all over again. I would marry this woman all over again without question. Because if you can't say that, it means basically, you're not satisfied with that marriage position that you were in. So how do you do that and how do you get that? That's another whole series. It's another whole challenge. The divorce rate among pastors is no different from the rest of the world.

As a matter of fact, I remember the C. Elijah used to follow one couple who were marriage counselors. They were the number one marriage counseling couple in America. See Elijah what happened with -- they got divorced. See? The number one marriage counseling couple in America and they got divorced. Here they are telling everybody -- counseling is not easy. It's not easy. Adam and Eve had an issue from the beginning. It is not easy. So, when I told the woman you might not get married and they asked me three questions. Number one, they wanted to know how do they know first of all, whether or not they were selected to be married? How do I know if you were selected to be the one that will not be married?

Most women want to be married. Number one, if you don't meet a man that you really know in your heart, you need to marry that's first indication right then. The man -- so if he never

shows up, that's going to say something right off the bat. And you have a challenge with particularly now, particularly because there are so many more black females who are educated than men, averaging about two to one. So, for every two women with a college degree, there's only one man.

We want our company trip and Pastor James went over to Howard University. And what was the ratio of women to men at Howard? Twenty or thirty to one. The exact number was 25 to 1. So, at Howard University, and this is where we got one of the high political figures in the country right now, she graduated from Howard. But at Howard is 25 women for every one man. And that's HBC is 25 women for every one man. The National average is about two to one. But what that means is for an educated black woman, it's only one educated black man for every two educated black women. Now, that has nothing to do with you. I want you to understand that really clear. That has nothing to do with you.

I remember when I was in college and I was at a predominantly majority school. Very few black folks, and everybody was complaining and say women here I don't (00:34:11) I'm going to get that one. I mean, that was my mentality. So, I dealt with a statistic because they got nothing to do with me. No, it's not married me. But they got nothing to do with me. If this one eligible woman hit you all in bad shape because I'm going to get that one. So that was my mentality. So, the staff has nothing to do with you, but they are real.

And just in case, there is not one that you feel comfortable with. See, this is the other thing that we found in marriages when they've gone wrong. There are two things. Number one, always one of the parents told them not to marry this person, almost universal. And number two, one of the folk walking down the aisle and I knew something was wrong walking down the aisle. There was something ain't good that just didn't quite set right, but most of the time, particularly when you're counseling women and they have a marriage proposal. They will not listen if you tell them, don't marry that man. They will not listen. I've only had one person listen to me, and they didn't listen to me.

I sat there and talked with the man for over an hour, and he said, pastor what do you think? I said I'm not going to tell you what I'm thinking? I said, but I'm going to tell you this. I want

you to think back on what you've told me about this woman. You've been talking to me about this woman for an hour and you've been asking me, should you marry this woman. In the whole hour, you've not said one positive thing about this woman. In the whole hour so I'm not going to tell you what to do. I'm just going to tell you what you've just got to telling me. In the whole hour, you've not said one positive thing about this woman. So, what do you think? He didn't marry her, but that's rare.

And I've had other pastors tell me this, when a woman got a marriage proposal and he want to get married, she's not going to listen to anything you say. So, you have to sometimes at least listen to yourself or listen to your mother or to your father. They will usually have an insight that you do not need to be blinded to, because almost every one of the marriages that went wrong, somebody told them and somebody with some wisdom told them. Don't marry this person, and they're going to tell you why not to marry this person. I had multiple instances. I had spiritual, even stuff where my mother actually had a dream about the first one when I was engaged to be married to because I was engaged because I had a goal to be married by 25. I was going to schedule with my goal and my mother said son, I had a dream at the one when you were going to marry and that's what she told me about. She said don't marry that woman. I listened to my mom. My mom did right about that thing. Sometimes people, you will get a warning whether it be in the natural or the spiritual and particularly women you got to listen when you get that warning.

Now, both of your parents are good, solid parents, and they tell you, this is a good, solid man here. You need to get this man or you need to get this woman. You need to listen to the parents. But if they tell you son or daughter, no there's something wrong with them and this is why. You need to listen to that, because it makes a difference and this thing can -- I've got a plaque on my office by H. Jackson Brown called the 21 Rules of Life. And number one, it says this marry the right person. This one decision will determine 90% of your happiness or misery. Now, I don't agree with the 90%, but that's a good chunk of it. It's a good chunk of it. Because no matter what situation you, it still depends on your inter mentality. So, how do I know if I'm selected? Number one, if the one doesn't show up then don't marry. It's as simple as that. If the one doesn't show up, don't marry.

And what if that is not your desire? There's a whole lot of stuff God has ordained is not our desire. So, you need to ask yourself, Lord, what is your will? Send me the man who is your will? Send me the woman who is your will. That's what I please need to be. And if I am not supposed to marry, then Lord, don't send them and let me have peace within myself about this thing. So, number one, what if that is not your desire? You need to get your desire in line with God's desire. And you said, Pastors, I like God would have just wanted everybody to marry? Didn't you see what Jesus and the disciples (00:38:15) what Paul says? No, it's not the case. The main reason was to repopulate the earth, and that has been done. The earth is overcrowded. So, you actually don't need marriage for population. It's overcrowded.

So, don't get hung up in your head that I just got to get married. It is God's will for me to get married is a good thing. The Bible said, man who finds a wife find up a good thing. But what if you don't find a good way? There's so much stuff on this stuff. For example, many of you want to be the Proverbs 31 woman, and I read through that. I said, wait, Lord I'm reading through all this stuff here, and it's talking about just a business woman. I said where's the loving wife, just a businesswoman. And often too many women want to be a business woman, they don't want to be the wife. And I couldn't understand that. And I had to keep reading and then I understood it. The Proverbs 31 woman was actually dictated by the man's mama. And I said, well, where's the loving wife? And this was the King. And I couldn't understand this until I had to put the whole thing in perspective.

The King had multiple, wives and concubines. He didn't need the loving partner. He needed a business woman to handle that part. He had other women to handle the other part. These days you got to do it all. You got to handle the loving part and sometimes we only want to be the Proverbs 31 woman. We want to hand the corporate stuff. We want to handle the business. You'll be faithful to the job, the house are messed, the bed is cold and when that happens, you're going have that marriage as there's just going be an issue. So, there's a lot of stuff that just goes along with this. And what if that is not your desire? You need to make sure your desire is in line with God desires that you desire to be married and you want a physical relationship.

00:40:02

What if you need, I want sex? And that's a real desire? That's a real issue. Pastor, you just saying I need to be celebrated. What do I need to do if I want me some sex? That's a very simple question. And it's a very real question. It's a very real situation. Sex outside of marriage has issues. That's why you're looking at most black households, there is only the woman there and there is no man. It has issues with disease. It has issues with children. But the biggest issue, it has issues with emotional turmoil and damage. A man can better than a woman be involved in a physical relationship without extreme attachment. I said better than a woman but some men get all whipped if you all know what it means. They really do. And when you start having sex, it's an emotional thing and when that thing breaks up, now you all torn to pieces. When this man fools with another woman, now you all torn to pieces and the pleasure that you got for sex that last with just a few minutes, now you got these months or these years of this emptiness of this pain that you're dealing with because of that.

And see, we have to learn how to control the appetites of the flesh with all kind of stuff. You got to control literally your physical food appetite that you get all unhealthy and stuff. You have to learn how to control the appetites of the flesh. When you learn to become content, even with celibacy and this is what Paul was talking about. And different people have different levels of sex drive. There's just no question about this. Some people can do that just easy. And some people we just hide this by. They're different levels. But regardless of the level, regardless of the appetite, you basically have to learn how to control your appetite. If you don't learn how to control your appetite, often even marriage won't solve it. That's why there's infidelity in most of the marriage, because the appetites are not balanced.

So, if you got one where the woman just needed and the man don't need it that much, you won't have a problem and soon or later, those same appetites it causes you to stray single, it causes you stray marriage. So, you got to learn how to control appetite. So, what if I want a physical relationship, get you a cat or a dog and just cuddle up with them and it really does help. It helps to have a warm body, just a pet to rub, that helps. It's psychologically, absolutely -- well, I don't want no dog.

Sometimes you're going to get a dog of a man, and this is just real. So, we got to learn how to master the urges, married or single, or else you want to run into some issues and you're going to run into some problems. So, I told the person I would answer that question in the summer. It's a tricky one, but the bottom line, for those of you who are single, whether you're a man or woman. Seek God for your mate. But learn how to be happy where you are because when you get two folks and both of them are miserable single, they're more likely going to be miserable married. And if you don't learn how to be happy, where you are when you are, getting married does not solve most of those issues. Often, they make them worse because now you got to deal with another person who got issues.

Getting married does not solve that problem. And that's the illusion that so many women have. If I can just get married, I am going to be happy. They're happy on the wedding day, but there's still some inside the stomach that just stay quiet, right? And five years later, they're sitting in the pastor's office talking about why this marriage is not working. So, I hope those of you who are single, whether you're a woman or a man, hit some of this today and really elevate your spiritual life. That's why the church was called the bride price. When you really get in communion with God, that's your only true guaranteed joy. The rest of it may or may not happen.

They're talking right now about the big thing with Oprah, about the Prince and the Princess, and then went through all of this stuff. She got to get psychological accounts. And that's a literal Prince. She married a literal prince charming. You know, everybody, I'm waiting on my prince. That's a literal prince. And look at all the issues they got. And that's not all the issues. That's just the issue they told Oprah. But trust me, it's way more stuff than that. That is what they told Oprah about. That's just between them and the other Royal family. They got some stuff going on just between them. And that's a literal prince. So, you got to be happy where you are, when you are. I was (00:44:43) three years before I got married and I got just as happy. I was just as much at peace. When I broke away from women, I was literally happy. I didn't even want to start back because I developed a divine connection. That's what you have to do. And with the divine connection, God did send my wife.

00:45:00

So, people, when God does send you a wife or a husband because remember, Eve was custom-made. That's as good as you can get. She was custom made. That's as good as you can get and still Adam got booted out of paradise. So, marriage is not necessarily going to solve all your problems. It may not solve any of your problems. It may add to your problem. You got to get yourself right on the answer. And if you do that, you can handle almost anything, you will become at peace and the greater you become at peace within yourself, the greater likelihood you're going to draw the right person. Because you want to draw a person who's at peace. If you are in turmoil and desperate, you're going to draw somebody in turmoil. Water sets at the level. You'll draw what you are, so you need to get it peace with yourself first. And once you do that, you become married to Jesus, man or woman. You become married to Jesus. And that's the only union that will guarantee you true joy.

Our time is really about out today and I want to finish on time. The message ran over the normal length of time, but I knew this was going to be a complicated message, and it may help one person. And if it helps one person, the message has done its job. I do believe God wants you full of joy. Regardless of what your marital status is, God wants you to be full of joy. Amen. Well, Christine, can you kind of play us out on a song? You only got a minute and a half. As we leave today, I'm just going to pray over you. I'm going to just pray over the single people, and I do believe that you can be fully fulfilled single, but not single. It has to be you and Jesus. And if it's you and Jesus, you will be fulfilled.

Dear Heavenly Father, we just thank you for those who are here, those who are listening. And Father, I pray right now for their relationships, both with you and with others, and give them an insight and give them a peace. And Father, most are destined for marriage. And for those who are destined for marriage, I pray that you send them the right person. Send them the person who is tailor made for them and give them the understanding that even with a tailor-made custom person, there's still going to be some adjustments. There's still going to be trials and tribulation. There's still going to be things that will come. But in the right spirit, these things will help them to grow and to become closer to you and closer even to each other.

And I just pray for their relationship right now, whether they be with you or with you and another person. And I pray that you smooth it out, give them the understanding and give them peace. For you are a God of love and the God of peace in thy Son Jesus' name. We pray. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Well, this is a deep message beginning with this thorn, but that's the first thorn of relationships. You can go to brothersoftheword.com. You can send this message to a friend, absolutely free of charge. We thank you for joining us today at Brothers of the Word, because brother and I guess truly in this case, and sister, you need the Word. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Female: You are listening to brothersoftheword.com. This was part one of the series titled, "Thorns" subtitled "What If I Want a Man and Sex" by Nathaniel Bronner. This message is number 5909. That's 5909.

To listen to thousands of free messages or to send this message number 5909 to a friend, go to brothersoftheword.com.

Male: If this message has been a blessing to you and you would like to help support this ministry, go to iwanttogive.com. That's iwanttogive.com.

Female: Listen to brothersoftheword.com often because brother, you need the word.

(Music Playing)

00:49:06