

History of a Failed Wife

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The Bible contrasts the difference between a fully functioning wife, and a failed one. The primary purpose is to explain the responsibility of a physical people, represented symbolically by a woman, bride, wife, and mother, toward their spiritual husband. In this intimate relationship, Almighty God was the One who arranged a marriage between His first created son, and the physical nation of ancient Israel. As we will see, the marriage vow included various conditions for both parties. The spiritual husband was to lead, protect, and provide for his future wife, the ancient nation of Israel. In turn, this nation was to obey the voice of its spiritual husband (Ex. 23:20-22; cf. Mt. 3:17; Mk. 9:7; Lk. 9:35; Ac. 3:22-26). This seems simple enough but sadly, like many marriages today, it ended in divorce due to infidelity or, as Almighty God would describe it, "sin".

*Then I (the spiritual husband) saw that for all the causes for which backsliding Israel (physical wife consisting of nine descendants of Jacob) had committed adultery, **I had put her away and given her a certificate of divorce**; yet her treacherous sister Judah (the Jewish nation consisting primarily of three descendants of Jacob) did not fear, but went and played the harlot also (Jer. 3:8; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).*

*Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and **sin is lawlessness** (1Jn. 3:4; cf. 2Tim. 2:19; emphasis added).*

Based on the marriage covenant within God's law, the spiritual husband in this relationship could not remarry unless his wife, in her entirety, died (Rom. 7:2; 1Cor. 7:27-28). As the ancient nation

of Israel did not die in its entirety, it left only the spiritual husband to die, which he did.

*Now wherever a will is in question, **the death of the testator** (Jesus Christ) **must be established; indeed, it only becomes valid with that death**, since it is not meant to have any effect while the testator is still alive (Heb. 9:16-17; The Jerusalem Bible; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

However because this husband, now known as Jesus Christ, was resurrected from the dead, he is permitted to marry again. Thankfully, his new bride is in complete harmony with him, "spiritually speaking", because she has repented of sin which the first wife never did, except for certain individuals like Moses, Aaron, Miriam, etc. Instead, she continued to live in sin, and her descendants continue to live in sin to this day.

*For I (Paul) am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For **I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you** (figuratively speaking) **as a chaste virgin to Christ** (2Cor. 11:2; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

*Husbands, love your wives just as **Christ also loved the church and gave himself for her** (died) ²⁶that he might set it apart and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word (of God), ²⁷**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 (sins forgiven following repentance) (Eph. 5:25-27; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

*For no one ever hated his own flesh, **but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church** (Eph. 5:29; emphasis added).*

Sadly, the first wife of this spiritual husband had multiple relationships, which confirmed her unfaithfulness. These unlawful relationships are compared symbolically to the act of prostitution, or harlotry, because she adopted the pagan practices of her lovers.

You built your high places at the head of every road (pagan shrines), and made your beauty to be abhorred. You offered yourself to everyone who passed by, and multiplied your acts of harlotry. ²⁶You also committed harlotry with the Egyptians, your very fleshly neighbors, and increased your acts of harlotry to provoke Me to anger (Eze. 16:25-26; Ed. note in parenthesis).

*You also played the harlot with the Assyrians, because you were insatiable; indeed you played the harlot with them and still were not satisfied. ²⁹Moreover you multiplied your acts of harlotry as far as the land of the trader, Chaldea; and even then you were not satisfied. ³⁰**How degenerate is your heart!** says the Lord God, seeing you do all these things, the deeds of a brazen harlot (Eze. 16:28-30; emphasis added).*

Because Christ's new wife rejected the pagan practices that his first wife immersed herself in, there are many new children being born, and these children are being taught to obey the word of God, including His law and commandments.

*And do not think to say to yourselves (Jewish religious leaders), "We have Abraham as our father." For I (Christ) say to you that **God** (Almighty) **is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones** (if necessary) (Mt. 3:9; cf. Lk. 3:8; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

*But as many as received him (Christ), to them **he gave the right to become children of God**, even to those who believe in his name:*

¹³who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God (Almighty; cf. Jn. 6:44; 65) (Jn. 1:12-13; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

*Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called **children of God**... (1Jn. 3:1a; emphasis added).*

***You are of God, little children**, and have overcome them (false teachers) ... (1Jn. 4:4a; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

Everyone who claims to be a child of God, while rejecting or ignoring His law and commandments, is figuratively illegitimate until they repent of sin and begin living a new life of obedience to every word of God (Rom. 6:4; Mt. 4:4).

He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him (1Jn. 1:4).

*By this we know that **we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome** (1Jn. 5:2-3; emphasis added).*

*But if you want to enter into life (everlasting), **keep the commandments** (Mt. 19:17b; cf. Prov. 7:1-2).*

Had Christ's first wife fulfilled her responsibilities, many children would have been born "figuratively" through that relationship. In fact, it was one of the main reasons for that marriage. These children would have been all the Gentile nations that bordered the ancient nation of Israel, and eventually all their trading partners around the "known world" at that time.

*Surely I (Moses) have taught you statutes and judgments, just as the Lord my God commanded me, that you should act according to them in the land which you go to possess. ⁶Therefore be careful to observe them; for **this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples** (of the Gentile nations) **who will hear all these statutes, and say, 'Surely this great nation** (of ancient Israel) **is a wise and understanding people.'** ⁷For what great nation is there that has God so near to it, as the Lord our God is to us, for whatever reason we may call upon Him? ⁸And what great nation is there that has such statutes and righteous judgments as are in all this law which I set before you this day? (Dt. 4:5-8; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

The entire world could have observed the ancient nation of Israel living in accordance with the law and commandments of God that were an integral part of the marriage covenant between ancient Israel and their spiritual husband, who is now known as Jesus Christ (cf. 1Cor. 10:1-4).

*Thus you (Moses) shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. ⁵Now therefore, **if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. ⁶And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation...** (Ex. 19:3b-6a; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

*And a cloud came and overshadowed them (Christ's disciples); and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "**This is My beloved Son. Hear him!**" (Mk. 9:7; Lk. 9:35; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

According to Exodus 19:6, had this ancient nation fulfilled its marriage vow, it would have

become the priesthood for this entire planet and everyone would have been blessed as a result. The phrase "peace on earth" would have become a reality a long time ago if ancient Israel had honored the marriage covenant they made with their spiritual husband. They were not forced into this marriage. Instead, they freely agreed to this relationship.

So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before them all these words which the Lord commanded him. ⁸Then **all the people answered together and said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do"** (Ex. 19:7-8a; emphasis added).

Beginning with the 20th chapter of Exodus, Almighty God's son and spokesman, now known as Jesus Christ, declared the conditions that the ancient nation of Israel was expected to willingly follow. These same conditions would have been followed by all the nations of this world if ancient Israel had remained monogamous with their spiritual husband. Sadly, they failed in this basic aspect of their marriage and exchanged it for multiple relationships with the polytheistic pagan nations. It was only a short time after taking their marriage vows at Mt. Sinai that ancient Israel began worshiping the chief god of the Egyptians, Apis. To make matters worse, they claimed this celebration was to honor their spiritual husband. The same thing occurred when people in positions of religious authority decided to place the name of the son of God on pagan holidays like Christmas, New Year's Day, and Easter. Celebrating New Year's Day is synonymous with the god Janus, Christmas is synonymous with the worship of Mithra, while Easter is synonymous with the worship of the Egyptian goddess Ishtar.

*And he (Aaron) received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, "**This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!**" ⁵So when*

Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord" (Ex. 32:4-5; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

Had ancient Israel observed God's appointed Holy Days, including the weekly Sabbath (Saturday on today's calendar), New Moon (each month at the conjunction), Passover, Days of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles and Last Great Day, the known world would have understood God's plan of salvation because it is summarized by these appointed Holy Days (see: God's Holy Days). Instead, ancient Israel continued to break God's law and commandments, rather than teach the other nations to observe them. In order to reverse this situation, Almighty God is now building a new priesthood that will live by every word of God.

You also (who repented of sin), as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God (Almighty) through Jesus Christ (1Pet. 2:5; Ed. notes in parentheses).

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy (1Pet. 2:9-10).

This new priesthood can benefit from both the physical and spiritual promises made by their husband as part of the marriage covenant consummated upon repentance of sin, and baptism by immersion in water. Some of the physical promises are mentioned in Deuteronomy 28:1-14, while some of the

spiritual promises are mentioned in John 14:2-3, 12-18, 23, 26-27; 15:7-11, 15.

This new priesthood is synonymous with the true and faithful church that is being built progressively by Jesus Christ.

*Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are being built together for a habitation of God in the (Holy) Spirit** (Eph. 2:19-22; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

This new priesthood does not follow the humanly devised religious systems of this world. Instead, its relationship is solely with its husband.

*For there is one God and **one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus** (1Tim. 2:5; emphasis added).*

At this time in man's history, it is a relatively small group of individuals who are committed to teach the importance of God's law and commandments, but whoever Almighty God is "calling" will take note (Jn. 6:44; 65).

For many are called, but **few are chosen** (Mt. 22:14; cf. 1Cor. 1:26; emphasis added).

Do not fear, **little flock**, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom (Lk. 12:32; emphasis added).

The physical descendants of the ancient nation of Israel are scattered among the nations of this world today, and many of them claim to know God. However, the majority still refuse to

acknowledge the importance of obeying what He says, just as their forefathers did.

Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: ⁸“These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but **their heart is far from Me.** ⁹And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men” (Mt. 15:7-9; cf. Eze. 16:30; emphasis added).

Collectively, these descendants are “the failed wife” of their spiritual husband, whether they are aware of this or not. They prefer to follow the commandments of their religious leaders, or the latest societal norms, rather than seeking their long-lost husband. They can’t even recognize him as long as they are in rebellion against the law and commandments of their “figurative” Father-in-law, Almighty God, despite their protests to the contrary.

Until they repent of their sins and begin living in accordance with God’s law and commandments, they will never meet the standard of the woman who represents God’s faithful and obedient servants (Rom. 6:4). This woman, that represents God’s true church, is described as a virtuous wife as opposed to the harlot that left her spiritual husband to commit sin with multiple pagan religious systems.

Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. ¹¹ The heart of her husband (Jesus Christ) safely trusts her... (Prov. 31:10-11a; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Christ trusts that his wife, the true church of God, will not compromise with his Father’s law and commandments. Instead, she will work hard to uphold them as well as being concerned for the well-being of others, especially those in the household of God,

*She does him (Christ) good and not evil all the days of her life. ¹³She seeks wool and flax, and willingly works with her hands. ¹⁴She is like the merchant ships, she brings her food from afar. ¹⁵She also rises while it is yet night, and provides food for her household, and a portion for her maidservants (Prov. 31:12-15; cf. **Lk. 6:35; Gal. 6:10; 1Tim. 6:17-18**).*

She does her best to assist the poor in heart (humble) and the needy (those who need to understand God’s truth correctly),

*She extends her hand to the poor, yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy (Prov. 31:20; cf. **Mt. 5:3; Ps. 51:17; 125:5-6; Isa. 66:2**).*

*Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching (2Tim. 4:2; cf. **Ps. 145:15**)*

Her active involvement with others, who are seeking to obey God’s word, contributes to them being properly clothed in “righteous behavior”.

*She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household is clothed with scarlet. ²²She makes tapestry for herself; **her clothing is fine linen and purple** (Prov. 31:21-22; emphasis added).*

*And to her (God’s true church) it was granted to be arrayed in **fine linen**, clean and bright, for **the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints** (Rev. 19:8; Ed. note in parenthesis; cf. **Ps. 132:9**).*

Because of the righteous acts of God’s true church, she will eventually be respected even by those who wished her harm (Ps. 119:160,172).

Many daughters have done well, but you excel them all. ³⁰Charm is deceitful and beauty is

vain, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised (Prov. 31:29-30).

*Indeed I (Christ) will make those of the synagogue of Satan (false religious systems), who say they are Jews (chosen by God; cf. **Mt. 7:21-23**) and are not, but lie – indeed I will make them come and worship (bow down in respect) before your feet, and to know that I have loved you (Rev. 3:9; Ed. notes in parentheses).*

So the synagogue of Satan, which represents all the false religious systems of this planet, is as guilty as the failed wife. This failed wife consists of the physical descendants of Israel/Jacob. These latter people came from the families of Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Zebulun, Issachar, Dan, Gad, Naphtali, Ephraim, Manasseh, and Benjamin.

Judah, Benjamin, and Levi are collectively known as the house of David, or the Jews (1Kgs. 12: 19, 21-24), while the other nine families and their descendants comprise the bulk of the house of Israel (1Kgs. 12:16). Therefore, all twelve families can claim their lineage back to their father Jacob/Israel, but **nine of these families** are not descended from the house of David, and **are not Jews**. Consequently, **not all Israelites are Jews**, even though all Jews are Israelites. Although this truth is rarely taught in today's world, it is important because it confirms that the failed wife is actually referring to the descendants of all twelve sons of Jacob who rejected their spiritual husband, and failed to help the Gentile nations correctly understand God's law and commandments. As mentioned previously in this article, ancient Israel was to teach other nations about God's Holy Days because they were created by Almighty God for all mankind, and Christ reaffirmed this when commenting on the weekly Sabbath.

*And he said to them, "**The Sabbath was made for man...**" (Mk. 2:27; emphasis added).*

Many so-called religious authorities teach that God's Holy Days were only meant to be observed by the Jewish people. How wrong they are, and how effectively they have lied and deceived this world (cf. **2Cor. 11:13-15**)!

Thankfully, Almighty God has chosen a new wife for His son Jesus Christ, and she is faithful and obedient to her husband and seeks to please him by keeping the law and commandments that his first wife refused to follow (Rev. 12:17), including the observance of God's appointed Holy Days.

When the descendants of the first wife are resurrected from death at the end of Christ's millennial rule on this earth (Rev. 20:1-6), they will have an opportunity to repent of their sins and be reconciled with their spiritual husband. This "second resurrection of the dead" will be a period of judgment, and it will include being tested on a genuine willingness to obey every word of God, including the observance of God's appointed Holy Days (cf. Zech. 14:16-21).

As He says also in Hosea: "I will call them My people, who were not My people (due to their sins), and her beloved, who was not beloved."²⁶ "And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not My people,' there they will be called sons of the living God" (Rom. 9:25-26; Ed. note in parenthesis).

The scenario described in Romans 9:25-26 can only occur because Almighty God is not willing that anyone perish forever (2Pet. 3:9). However, the condition for inheriting everlasting life has never, and will never change, it is based on a willing obedience to live by every word of God.

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