

What God Has Joined Together... Or Not

Many read the Scripture, "What God has joined together let not man separate" and believe it to mean every marriage is a union God has ordained and therefore will bless. Unfortunately, this is not so. God is not obligated to bless every marriage - only those He has joined together...



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“Celebrating Jesus Christ Through The Beauty Of Poetic Expression”

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Contents

The Authority & Power Behind Words.....	7
The Power Of Inspiration.....	9
What God Has Joined Together ... Or Not.....	10
The Author.....	14





"Wisdom is a tree of life to those who take hold of her."

Proverbs 3:18



In All Things, Glorify God Through Jesus Christ





The Authority & Power Behind Words

As far back as I can remember, I have always enjoyed writing inspirational prose and poetry. However, I only wrote as a hobby and an outlet. But late one night in the fall of 2001, everything about my writing changed after I heard the audible voice of God call out my name...

Shortly thereafter, I began to receive inspired poems and messages that ministered to me on subjects pertaining to life, love and loss. These messages came when I least expected them causing me to keep a notepad and pencil with me at all times. As some would record their thoughts in a diary, I kept a journal and filled it with these poems and messages.

For years my husband urged me to share my work with others as a ministry. However, at the time, I disagreed for I felt that would be too invasive. My writings were deeply personal as they spoke of my life, my loves and my loss. Yet, as the Lord would have it, that decision changed after seeing one of my poems minister to a someone other than myself.

Over the years, the Lord has taught me to better understand and appreciate the authority and power that stands behind our words. It is written: *"So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and It shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."* Isaiah 55:11

When God inspires us to speak, either audibly or in written form, we are sending forth His word which shall not return to Him void, but it shall accomplish what He pleases, and It shall prosper in the thing for which He sent it.

May the inspired messages within this book be a blessing to all who read them.



"The very words I have spoken to you are Spirit and Life."

John 6:63





The Power Of Inspiration

When God reveals His sovereign majesty and power, He inspires His people...
When we reveal God through our life-changing testimonies, we inspire the world...

Inspiration is what happens when we are moved to believe in extraordinary possibilities that ordinarily seem impossible. Inspiration feeds our faith and restores the hope that keeps us pushing past obstacles and enables us to move forward. When we inspire others, we lift people up above their natural circumstances and they are moved to take action. It is in that place of action that God meets us. It is there that we see the wondrous and the miraculous take place...

"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in Him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit."

Romans 15:13





What God Has Joined Together... Or Not

Many read the Scripture, "*What God has joined together let not man separate*" (Matthew 19:6), and believe it to mean that every marriage is a union God has ordained and therefore will bless. Unfortunately, this is not so. God is not obligated to bless every marriage - *only those He has joined together*.

God told Adam that it was not good for man (or woman) to be alone. Most of us agree. So, we set out to find that perfect person we *believe* was made just for us. We are convinced that when we do, they will make us *happy*, we will make them *happy* and the union will become a happily-ever-after kind of marriage. This makes sense because the world tells us that the pursuit of *happiness* is what leads to true success. But is that really true? If so, then why are so many once happily married couples still not happy?

By now, we should all know that there is no such thing as a perfect person. We are all imperfect people living in an imperfect world. With this being the case, we should know that there is no such thing as a perfect marriage for it is impossible for perfection to come out of imperfection. So how does one have a good and successful marriage?

First, we must recognize that God's idea of success and the world's idea of success is completely different. The world defines success as that which has accomplished prosperity, affluence, wealth, opulence, comfort and ease of life. The

world tells us that if we pursue these things, we will have all we need to be happy. This just isn't so.

Second, we must understand that a godly marriage and a worldly marriage is also different. The world agrees that the idea of marriage is good. And everyone wants a successful marriage. Yet all marriages are not good. Marriage is good not because the world thinks so but because God created it to be so.

A godly marriage is a holy covenant that consists of only one man and one woman joined together for the purpose of glorifying Jesus through their union. A worldly marriage is a man-made merger consisting of two or more beings (for in this evil day, people are even marrying animals) for the purpose of satisfying their own fleshly desires. This is a mockery and a distortion of what God created marriage to be.

So how does one have a good and successful godly marriage? One must first have a relationship with Jesus Christ. A truly successful marriage consists of a strong cord made up of three strands - God, husband and wife. Once this is understood, a couple should embrace God's word concerning their responsibilities in marriage, according to the word of God.

Now, we can all agree that a godly marriage – a marriage consisting of a man and a woman who are both children of God - is good however, that does not mean a godly marriage is perfect and without problems. In fact, this is quite the contrary. Satan loves to attack God's people by aiming at the marriage relationship. However, a godly marriage *should reflect God's presence*. So the couple going into the marriage should not be the same when the Lord calls them out of the marriage.

God does nothing unintentional. He uses His married couples to accomplish much in the Kingdom. You see, ministry begins first at home. The Lord uses the marriage relationship to further develop the husband and wife. He works in them and through them individually as well as together. If God adds children to the union, He requires the parents to provide for them a proper training ground. With God's guidance, together the family learns love, holiness, faithfulness, unity, forgiveness, mercy, grace, tenderness, appreciation, consideration, patience and more. What God does through His married couples overflow from the family into the world. A godly marriage - one that is submitted to God and is operating according to God's guidance - is considered a *good and successful* marriage in God's eyes.

The family is on the front line of battle in the attack against the enemy and a strong marriage is the best defense the family, as a whole, can have.

God wants to be our first love. He wants to spend one-on-one time with us to cultivate a close, intimate relationship with Him. He wants us to get to know Him, love Him and come to recognize all that He is in our life. Then He wants to be a part of everything that is important to us. This is so very beautiful and special in so many ways. Especially where it concerns the one union He ordained that most resembles the union we have with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

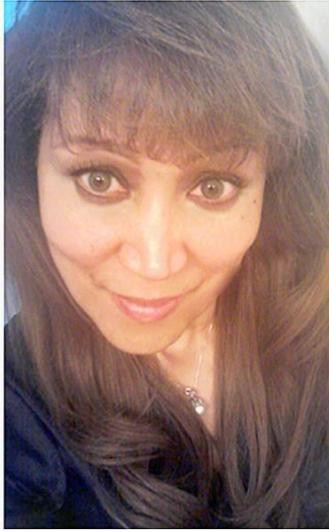
God wants us to know His perfect Love *first* so that when the time is right for Him to usher us into a relationship, and ultimately a marriage, with that special someone, we will know how to give, as well as how to receive, a godly love.



“Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, ‘Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’ ” And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.”

Revelation 19:7-9





The Author

R'chelle Cyrus-Hughes is a prophetic voice to the nations. Her ministry is driven to edify, inspire and encourage people all over the world to have a deeper, more intimate relationship with Jesus. Rchelle is the founder of ZionGirlZ International Ministries and a prolific author/writer of inspirational prose and poetry. Her work includes the 17-book journal collection, *Author Of Life: Poetic Inspirations*, and *The Victory Vignettes* series.

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