

Alone but not Lonely

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: I Corinthians 7.

B. Guide: vv26-35: three advantages of singleness, vv36-40: pressures of single life.

C. An explanatory note: Paul says he does not speak as a command from the Lord, but he suggests that he is given this as a subject to be spoken from apostolic guidance.

II. Advantages of the single life.

A. The last days that the church is always living in are perilous and difficult for marriage—singleness has more advantage because of flexibility and mobility.

1. However, it is not a sin to marry.
2. Marriage increases responsibilities.

B. You ought to face life differently as a Christian than a non-Christian—it is easier to do this single.

1. This life is passing away. (I John)
2. We are being called to do the will of God.
3. It is easier to do this if one remains single.

C. The single man is freer from anxieties.

III. The pressures of single life.

A. Sexual pressure. Paul learned the significance of meaning as coming from the Lord to deal adequately with this.

B. Emotional pressure.

C. Married life is good, proper and right, but so is single life.

Application questions:

1. Why is single life better according to Paul?

2. Why does Paul not exclude marriage as a possibility?

3. What do you think the most outstanding pressure of single life is? Explain.
