



BIBLEWAY MINISTRIES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE—THE BIBLE WAY



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“**T**his car stops for garage sales!” This sticker is proudly displayed by that band of followers who, regardless of their planned destination, can be delayed, detoured, or rerouted at first glimpse of a sign displaying the infamous words “Garage Sale.”

It doesn't matter whether they are heading home from church or on their way to “wherever”; like warriors who are always ready for battle at the sight of the enemy, and like firemen bracing themselves for the next alarm, these shoppers are always ready to pull over after spotting “the sign.” They simply cannot pass it by!

As the garage sale shoppers roam through the neighborhoods following the directional signs leading to their target, their anxiety increases. They watch for telltale signs of valuable sale items such as large homes and well-manicured lawns. Like gold miners, they pull up to the house and dash towards the door.

Inside they see things of all sizes and shapes. There are big things, small things, things of great value, and older things which tell fascinating stories about their owner's life. Some items have been well cared for; others are slightly worn; others suffer from much neglect.

As the shoppers walk through the house, they notice family pictures on the wall which describe the size of the family. They speak of times they spent together at family gatherings or vacations. As the crowd combs through the belongings, it soon becomes clear each item shares one thing in common: they were all left behind by their owner.

Regardless of one's station in life, all the material artifacts will be left behind. Neither their cost nor their value matters. No matter how special we thought those items to be, our children or grandchildren will likely place them in a garage sale — probably for only a fraction of the cost!

Garage sales speak to us about life and remind us no matter how grand or glorious our possessions, they will all be left behind. As they pass into the hands of new owners, they will lose the significance they held for us.

King Solomon would say, “To rely on our material possessions to remind others of our life is . . . vanity of vanities.” (Ecclesiastes 1:2)

There are things in our lives that will live on long after we are gone. They are called memories. They are the most precious items we can leave behind, for memories don't always require a large financial contribution. They do not require one's income to be in the six-figure range. They are often created by giving brief moments of our time. Remarkably, they will outlive us. The question we should be asking ourselves is, “What will we leave behind?” It is answered by the personal investment we make in moments that create memories with our family and friends.

- *Dr. L.W. Edwards*



You're single, you have friends or family members getting married soon, and you're dreading the day when they ask if the marriage bandwagon has caught up to you. You have thought of at least a thousand ways

to answer this question (only one of them is "No"): The "wagon" was burnt to a crisp in your latest "Wild West" reenactment; the horse pulling the wagon went on strike; the wagon wheels keep getting stuck in the mud; the wagon was ambushed by bandits during a stop by the general store; and the wagon driver has been delayed because of a splinter stuck in his finger.

What you really want to tell your over-inquisitive friends and family is to mind their own business — but you're trying to be nice about it. (Besides, in the event you ever do get married, you can use them as stand-ins at the wedding party.)

The Single and Desperate

Some people believe if singles aren't as desperate as J.C. Baughman for marriage, then the proverbial bandwagon will pass and leave them in its wake. Who's J.C. Baughman? Just a 64-year-old Granbury, Texas, farmer pushing his desire for marriage to the limit. He calls his farm, "my little place of Heaven," and adds, "All I need is a woman to share it with."

For the past five years, Mr. Baughman has used a chalkboard tailgate on his truck to post Wife Wanted ads. His ads include text such as, "If U want unconditional love, get a dog! If U want happy, simple farm life, call." Another says, "God is in the water; go 4 a swim." You can't blame a guy for trying.

But J.C. has already reached the mountaintop — twice. Sadly, both of his previous marriages ended in divorce. Without knowing J.C. personally, we can conclude: 1. One or both parties in his previous relationships experienced an emptiness in marriage which made them desire singleness; and 2. A vacuum in singleness causes J.C. to desire marriage. Neither status has brought him fulfillment. Do you think a change in your marital status will make you any better off? Not by a Texas long shot.

The Single and Delighted

Don't let the single-and-desperate myth of pop culture fool you. Another brand of singleness is gaining momentum. Genesis 24:62-67 introduces us to Isaac, a 40-year-old single man. We meet him in the cool, hushed, solitary

setting of a field at eventide. It isn't unusual to find singles alone. What distinguishes this single from many is the way he chose to spend his quiet moments. He passed the time in prayer and meditation. On this particular day, Isaac was on his way to meditate in the field.

As Isaac opened his eyes and raised his bowed head, he saw a thick, brown cloud of dust rising from an approaching camel caravan. Isaac's father's servant led the ten-camel procession — and he had brought company. An attractive girl returned with the servant. An attractive, *single* girl. Their eyes met. A whirlwind romance ensued, and the rest is history. Rebekah became everything Isaac could have hoped for in a wife.

God didn't disappoint when He finally granted Isaac his heart's desire. He's not about to disappoint you, either. He will either give you a mate, or He will redirect your desire so you find satisfaction in your . . . [>>>Keep Reading](#)



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