

A MARRAGE WITHOUT REGRETS

PROGRAM 14 (#910144)

WEEK 3 (910331)

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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: A Marriage Without Regrets

TITLE: Program 14 – Contrast A Model Man And An Evil Man

THURSDAY

OPEN

Jesus is coming again. And when He comes again the second time, He's coming for judgment. When He comes the second time, He's coming to take over. I mean, He is saying, "Move over all you leaders. Move over all you nations. I'm here and I am God and I've come to take over." He's going to judge all those that have mistreated His people. There is a payday, someday. And it is coming.

PART ONE

Do you realize that the Bible tells us that a nation, Israel, got in trouble? And they got in trouble because they did not consider their future. They lived as if God did not mean what He said. They lived as if God would play favorites, or would overlook their behavior. And consequently when God opens the Book of Isaiah, He says, "Sons, I have brought up, sons I have reared..." And He's disappointed with them. He says, "...They're a

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generation of evil doers.” He says, “An ox knows its master. A donkey knows where it belongs, but My people do not know. They do not understand Me.” You know, I believe that the majority of our problems and our disappointments in life, and our frustrations in life, come, because we just don’t really understand God, because we don’t understand that we are created by God, that we are created for God and that because God is God and we’re man, that God has a way for us to live. We’ve been talking about this model man. We’ve been talking about this Bible being a manual for manhood, because men are confused. And men are frustrated. And I can understand that. And men feel oppressed. And what happens many times is when the pressure comes in on a man, and when he keeps fighting an upward battle, unless he’s fully convinced, gut level, inside, that he is right and that he’s headed down the right path, that man will back off and move into a passive mode. And that’s what a lot of women are living with. They’re living with passive men and they’re becoming wild, wild women. They’re just moving in and usurping the role of a man. And you know if you want to have a marriage without regrets, if you want to have a life without regrets, if you want to be able to stand before God and say, “Hey God, I did the best I could, not just I could. But I did the best I could because I knew what you said and I made that my goal, that my ambition.” I will tell you if you can find out what God says in this book the Bible, about manhood, if you can look and see, okay, what does God say the model man looks like, and you can aspire to that and you can set that as your goal and that is going to be your objective, when you stand before God, you’re not going to hang your head in shame. He’s not going to say, “Well you were a son that revolted.” But what does He do with each one of us? And He does this with every human being. He sets before us, life and death, blessing and cursing. There’s two roads that we can take. One road is a very narrow road. It’s a very straight road. And it’s a narrow straight road that leads to eternal life and in the process of getting us to eternal life; it gives us life that is more abundant.

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It's an abundant kind of life. It's a challenging life. It's a joyous life. It's not a life without trials and not a life without obstacles in its path. But it is a life that enables us to live as an overcomer. The other path that is set before us is as broad as you can get. It is as wide as you can get. The gate is very, very high. But the problem is it ends in destruction. It ends in hell. You say, "Hell, I don't believe in that." Now you can say that swearing or you can say, "Hell, I don't believe in that. I don't believe it exists." If you're swearing and you say, "I don't believe in it." You're using a word for a genuine place, a genuine destination." If you say, "Hell," and you're talking about the place and you say, "I don't believe in that." then I want to tell you something. You're deluded. You're deceived because there is a path that leads to hell. And eventually leads to the lake of fire. So, which path are you going to take? Let me lay before you today, those two roads. And if you're a woman that's listening, you say, "Of what benefit is this for me?" Well, who do you want to commit your life to? Who do you want to be your marriage partner? You say, "But I'm already married." Okay, you're already married. You're going to learn the two paths that a man can take. And you're going to learn, not today, but you're going to learn in the weeks to come, okay, how can you help that man? Remember you were created as a helpmeet for a man, a counterpart, a completer, a completer, you know, a support for a man. So how can you help your man on the path that leads to life? Because I want to tell you something. If he takes that path, he's going to be a whole lot more interesting, challenging and exciting to live with. And it's going to give you a security, as a woman, that nothing else can give you. Well, we've been looking at what God called a model man. And this was the man that would run the church. And I want to make sure that I say that because in the Bible you had a plurality of leaders. You didn't just have one pastor. But you had several men that were there, that were watching over the flock. And we saw a list of qualifications for those kind of men in 1 Timothy, chapter 3. Now what I want to do is I want to take you to Titus. Because Titus gives us

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just an interesting little twists that we can see here about this man. So it's Titus and it's chapter 1. And you will find all the T's together in the New Testament: Thessalonians and then Timothy and then Titus and then comes the book of Hebrews, so Titus, chapter 1. In Titus, chapter 1, he says this, "For this reason...", verse 5, "...I left you in Crete. That you might set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you." So he's writing to Titus and he's saying, "This is what I want you to do. I want you to find these kind of men in every city." Now this is interesting because what were the people in Crete like? Well, he says, "One of them, a prophet of their own said, 'Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, and lazy gluttons.'" And he says, "This testimony is true." In other words, this was the character, the general character, the lifestyle of the men that lived on this island that was right in that Mediterranean Sea. And he says, "This is what they're like." Let me repeat it. "They're always liars. You can't rely on them. Their word is not true. They are evil beasts. I mean talk about man. No they're not like man, they're more like animals. And not only that, but they are lazy gluttons. They don't want to work. But they want to eat and they just indulge themselves. And anything that they can get a hold of, their lifestyle is gluttonous, more alcohol, more food, more wine, more women, more pleasure." You know, it's just a greed about them. All right, so now, what does he say about these elders? In verse 6, he says, "Namely, if any man be above reproach..." Now, we've seen what that means. That means that you can't point the finger at him, that you have no grounds for accusation against him. There's nothing that you can hold against that man. "...Having children who believe..." In other words, these men, it's not saying necessarily that all your kids are genuine Christians at this point. But it means that there is a general acceptance of what you have taught them. Now listen. If you're going to have children that believe, one of the biggest things that's going to cause them to believe is that they look at your life and they see hey, your walk matches your talk. The way you walk matches what you say. They see

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you living according to the principles and precepts that you profess. So if you profess to be a Christian, you really live like one. Now listen. There are many, many women that are living with men that say, “Look, I believe. Get off my case. The Old Man and I upstairs have an agreement. I don’t need to go to church. I can worship God wherever I want to. I don’t need to read the Bible. I’m okay.” But I want to tell you something. If that’s generally your attitude and you don’t want to talk about the things of the Lord, and you’re not interested in it and there’s no guilt if you’re not reading the Bible, and there’s no hunger to read the Bible and there’s no kindness and there’s no love, and there’s no evidence of God’s character in you, I want to tell you something, you’re deceived and you’re on that broad path. You say, “No, I don’t believe in that. Besides if I go to hell, all my buddies are going to be there.” I want to tell you something. If you go to hell, all your buddies may be there, but you know what, it’s solitary confinement, because death, that kind of death, is separation. Not only from God, but it’s separation from others. And believe me, that is hell. And it is a real place. So don’t give me that. When you say that, I know you don’t know. And you say, “But I don’t believe it.” But listen, whether you believe it or not, whether you believe my name is Kay Arthur, whether you believe that I’m from Precept Ministries International, whether you believe anything that I tell you, doesn’t change the fact that my birth certificate and my marriage certificate all say what my name is and my paycheck says that I’m with Precept Ministries International, so that doesn’t change it whether you believe it or not. And that’s what we have to remember. So we come down, this is to be a man who is above reproach. This is to be man and I left this out, a man of one wife. And we talked about that, a one woman man. In other words, his eyes are under control. His thoughts are under control. He’s not on the make. I mean he’s perfectly content with the woman that he has. And he knows that’s his woman for life. And as far as God’s concerned there’s no messing around, no messing around. And if you mess around, God’s going to get

you. You can know that God is going to get you. God judges adulterers. He knows. You may set back the speedometer, the odometer, excuse me. You may say you're one place and be another when you may be saying that you're playing golf, when you're really with her. God knows. His eyes see everything that goes on. All right. So this is a one woman man, "...having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion." Dissipation means hey, you know, I just live anyway that I want to live.

PART TWO

You're not to be self-willed. You are to be saying, "If God wills, then I will do this, or I will do that." Because you recognize that God is God and you are man and you become putty in His hands. This is the model man. This is the example of what Jesus was like. And He's the real thing when it comes to manhood. Well, it says, "And not quick tempered." You just don't fly off the handle like that. You have your emotions under control. "Not addicted to wine." In other words you don't have to have a drink. "Not pugnacious, not fighting and not fond of sordid gain, hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just." In other words, you're fair. You're just. You're not swayed. You can't be bought. You're not going to cheat. "Devout and self controlled..." and then it says this, "...holding fast the faithful Word." Now what has God just told you? He said, "These are faithful words. These are words that you can trust. These are words that you can believe. These are words that are going to come to pass." And what are you going to do? You're going to take that word and you're going to hold it fast. And you're not going to turn to the right and you're not going to the left. This is what God told Joshua, that man that would step in for Moses and lead the nation and cross the Jordan River and take over the land of Canaan. He said to him, "I want you to meditate on My Word day and night. I don't want it just coming out of your mouth. I want it in your head and in your heart. I don't want it coming in the ear and out the mouth. Think about it, reason through

it. Meditate on it day and night.” And then He said, “I want you to be strong and I want you to be courageous.” And He said this because he was about to fight the enemy. Every day sir, when you go out into that world, you’re in a battle. You’re in a battle with the enemy. You’re in a battle with the people of this world that want you to conform to their way of thinking, to their philosophy, to their lifestyle and God’s saying, “Look, I want you to be strong and I want you to be courageous. I want you to observe according to all that I tell you to do. I don’t want you to turn to the right. And I don’t want you to turn to the left. And I’m telling you, if you won’t turn to the right and you won’t turn to the left, but you will observe to do according to all that I tell you, then sir, you will have success. Then you will prosper. And I’m telling you this because I’m God.” I’m not saying that life won’t have difficulties. Because one of the things that we didn’t touch on, but you see it in Timothy, is that a man of God is a man who perseveres, who keeps on keeping on no matter the battle, no matter the fray, no matter the distractions. He’s got his path set. And he’s going to be strong and he’s going to be courageous. In other words, strong for the path ahead and courageous so that he is willing to stand alone and stand for his convictions, no matter what anyone else says, no matter the threats that come, no matter the temptations. This is God’s model man. Now look, I want to take you from here and just show you what God says about the other kind of men. And I want to take you to Timothy. This time I want to take you to 2 Timothy. This is Paul’s final letter to his son in the Lord. And when he writes to his son in the Lord, he’s in prison. He knows that the time of his departure has come. In other words, he knows that he’s about to be beheaded. But you know what Paul can say at the end of his life? He can say this. He can say “I have fought the good fight. I have kept the faith. I have finished my course. And hence forth, there is a crown of righteousness laid up for me and not for me only, but for all those, all those men and women who love His appearing.” Now, what do we mean by His appearing? He’s

going to come again. Jesus is going to come again. You may never had heard that. I didn't know it until after I was 29. And I went to church all my life. But I never heard it in the church that I went to because they didn't believe the Bible. Or many of them didn't believe the Bible. And they didn't teach that. But Jesus is coming again. And when He comes again the second time, He's coming for judgment. When He comes the second time, He's coming to take over. I mean, He is saying, "Move over all you leaders. Move over all you nations. I'm here and I am God and I've come to take over." He's going to judge all those that have mistreated His people. There is a payday, someday. And it is coming. So Paul is saying, "Look Timothy, you follow my example." He says that in the first chapter. He says, "You know the way I've walked." He says, "Now you follow my example." He tells the Corinthians, "Be imitators of me, even as I am of Christ Jesus." And that's what a model man can do. Now when he tells them all that, he also says, "I want you to realize this, that in the last days, difficult times will come." In other words, "Son, I'm leaving. I'm checking out of here. I'm going to be with Jesus. I'm going to walk those streets of gold. I'm going to be absent from the body. I'm going to be present with the Lord. The fight's over for me. The course is over for me. And I've run it well. And there's a reward for me. But you still have to run." He says, "Now, I want you to know, that in these last days." And those last days started with the first coming of Jesus Christ. He says, "Difficult times are going to come. And it's getting more and more difficult." And that's how we know that Jesus is closer. But so is judgment and accountability. He says, "Men will be lovers of self." Now remember the model man is not self-willed. But this guy is a lover of self. He is a lover of money. And remember the model man does not have a love of money. He's not controlled by money. He cannot be bought. But these men, hey, they're lovers of money. They'll do anything for money. I mean there are lawyers who will defend someone who is guilty and they know that they're guilty, simply for the dollars that they can earn, not for the

justice that they are there to uphold. He says, “They’re boastful.” “Hey man, did you see what I did? Do you know many women? Do you know how many?” They’re boastful. They are arrogant. I mean, there is a tilt to their nose. They are revilers. I mean, they sit there and they slam and they revile and they laugh and they say, “Don’t give me any of that stuff. I don’t want to hear about Jesus Christ. I don’t want to hear about the church. I don’t want to hear about religion. It’s all a bunch of bull. That’s all it is.” They revile. It says, “They are disobedient to parents.” In other words, there isn’t a right relationship to parents. They are ungrateful. They are not appreciative. And some of you are living with men like this. You can’t do anything to please them. They’re always cutting you down. They’re always demeaning you. What do you do? How do you handle that? We’re going to talk about that in this series as we continue. You’re going to get answers. You’re going to be so excited at what you learn. These are unholy. In other words, hey, they are not glorifying God at all. You can’t see the image of God in them. They suppress the image of God with their unrighteousness, with their ungodliness. They are unloving. They can walk away from their kids. They can walk away from these kids that they were creating and bringing into the world and not call them, miss their birthdays, miss their hospitalizations, not send money, not care about them. They are malicious gossips. I mean they will cut you down. They will talk; they’ll use their tongues to do anything that they want to do. Whatever they want, whenever they want it, however they want it, they’re going to go for it. They’re brutal. How do you measure up? Which path are you on? What kind of man are you? You’re at a crossroads and today you need to make a decision. And you need to know that decision can lead to life or death, to blessing or cursing. What do you want? Get on your knees and say to God, “God, I want to be Your man.” And I promise you if you’ll do that, God will say, “I’ll make you My man.”