

# "It Is Not Good That the Man Should Be Alone"

Although being single (unmarried) may seem appealing to some people during their late teens and early twenties, most people want to marry and have children. As the Lord said, "It is not good that the man should be alone" (Genesis 2:18). But we should be married in the right place—the temple—and by the right authority—the priesthood.

## A COMPELLING CASE FOR MARRIAGE

The book *The Case for Marriage* demonstrates that married people are healthier, wealthier, and happier than single individuals. Some of the statistics cited in the book are as follows:

- "Compared to married people, the non-married . . . have higher rates of [premature death] than the married: about 50% higher among women and 250% higher among men."<sup>5</sup>
- "40 percent of the married said they are very happy with their life in general, compared to just under a quarter of those who were single or who were cohabitating."<sup>6</sup>
- "Husbands earn at least 10 percent more than single men do and perhaps as high as 40 percent more."<sup>7</sup>



To those who choose to marry outside of the temple, the Lord gave a reality check about the permanence of their mortal vows in D&C 132:15-17: "Therefore, if a man marry him a wife in the world, and he marry her not by me nor by my word, and he covenant with her so long as he is in the world and she with him, their covenant and marriage are not of force when they are dead, and when they are out of the world; therefore, they are not bound by any law when they are out of the world."

In other words, if we are not married in the temple, our marriage ends when we die! So what happens next? "Therefore, when they are out of the world they neither marry nor are given in marriage; but are appointed angels in heaven, which angels are ministering servants, to minister for those who are worthy of a far more, and an exceeding, and an eternal weight of glory.

"For these angels did not abide my law; therefore, they cannot be enlarged, but remain separately and singly, without exaltation, in their saved condition, to all eternity; and from henceforth are not gods, but are angels of God forever and ever."

Did you catch that? The Lord warned that we will live "separately and singly . . . to all eternity." And, please keep in mind that not only will we live separately and singly for eternity, but there is no heavenly quick-fix, Las Vegas-style drive-thru wedding chapel to change the eternal marriage we didn't choose in mortality.