

Shayla: Can faithfulness in marriage be guaranteed?

Meforshim:

First, let me say that though we should “rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep” (Romans 12:15); weep for those who have fallen on hard times and allow our souls to grieve for the needy (Job 30:25), our compassion must be balanced and never obsessive.

We are to take every thought captive to obey Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5). We should not devote ourselves to empty speculations over the stewardship of God that is by faith (1 Timothy 1:4). Whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely and commendable, whatever possesses moral excellence and is praiseworthy should be the dwelling place, the focus, of our thoughts (Philippians 4:8).

Do not allow yourself to get so obsessive that you get upset to the point of having stomach problems. As the Lord said, “Don’t worry...each day has enough trouble of its own.” (Matthew 6:34).

Let me address each of your questions one at a time.

1. **Can I ask God for a wife that WILL NEVER be unfaithful?** Sure – just like you can ask Him to give you a million dollars. You can ask but it doesn’t mean you will necessarily get it. This is especially true about human free will. God has granted us free will and He will not change His mind. He did not force you to accept Him as you King and He does not stop another from refusing Him. He tells you what is sin and then gives you the right to heed that or not. This is as true for you as it is for any potential wife.
2. **Is there a way to safeguard your marriage from adultery?** Though there are many elements that contribute to a safe and healthy marriage, there are no guarantees. There’s no voodoo incantation that you can recite; there’s no class you can take that once you graduate you are proof from people’s wickedness. You can never be so good and holy that someone, somewhere won’t reject you. The Messiah never sinned and yet was hated sufficiently to be betrayed, lied about, tortured, and killed. Can either one of us surpass His relational skills?
3. **Will God always, 100% of the time, as soon as it happens, let me know if my spouse is unfaithful?** Probably not. Part of the time it has to do with the fact that God speaks and we ignore Him because we think we know better or we hesitate to give up cherished pleasures or beliefs (Proverbs 1:24-25). Part of it is that sometimes God allows pain in your life so that you can learn that His grace is sufficient for you (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Adonai is the Lord and there is no other. There is no God but Him. He forms light and creates darkness, makes success and creates disaster (Isaiah 45:5-7). He shows mercy to whom He wills, and hardens whom He wills. You may say “Why then does He still find fault? For who can resist His will?” But who are we to talk back to God? Will what is formed say to the One who formed it, “Why did you make me like this?” Or has the potter no right over His clay, to make from the same lump one piece of pottery for honor and another for dishonor? (Romans 9:18-21).

You are single, and these are not matters for your concern at this time. The laws, rules, principles, and precepts of the Scriptures should not concern a person until they are applicable (1 Timothy 1:9) For instance, a person who is not a Levite shouldn’t concern themselves with the rules regarding the priesthood since it will never apply to them. The laws regarding capital punishment don’t apply until we commit a capital crime. In other words, don’t stress about things that don’t apply to you.

You are single, and if you possess the gift of celibacy, should remain so, in order to more fully focus on the Kingdom of God in these dark days (1 Corinthians 7:7-9, 26-29).

If you do eventually find a godly woman and choose to marry her, go with God and face both the blessings and the challenges of marriage with grace, choosing to believe all things, hope all things, and endure all things – essentially giving the benefit of the doubt until proven otherwise. (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)