

# Holy Harmony - Part 1

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## I. Introduction.

A. Theme: a holy harmony.

B. Emphasis: harmony.

C. Example of a wife who refused to submit to her husband about the direction of their family.

1. The speaker responded that the command is that a wife is to submit and there are no footnotes - it is a supernatural kind of life.

2. There is no safe place in the universe except the will of God.

3. The woman decided to go with her husband to a dangerous place - she had great peace.

D. The example of the speaker who went back into the tribe that killed her husband in order to bring them to Christ.

1. Safety to the Christian is different to the world.

2. John the Baptist, Stephen, and even the spotless Son of Man was put to death.

E. The only way we can have harmony with a holy God is with glad surrender.

1. We surrender not as an odious burden.

2. We surrender with glad surrender.

3. The truth will set us free if we continue in Jesus' words.

4. Acceptance of the will of God is the secret of tranquility.

## II. Do you want the will of God in your life?

A. If so, would you expect to understand all of His dealings with you in terms that makes sense to your friends?

1. You never know what might happen. You only know what you do now.

2. Our business is to obey God.

3. Your friends will not understand. The way we act does not make sense to the world.

B. The proof of love is obedience.

C. Everything that happens is so that we might fit into the pattern of God.

1. All our assorted past God can fit into a beautiful plan.
2. All that we have to offer him is brokenness and surrender.
3. God is in the business of repair and maintenance.

D. The question is whether we want the rule of God in our lives.

1. We walk by faith and not by sight - God reveals deep mysteries when He wants to. (Daniel 2:22)
2. If what God has appointed for us does not seem good for us we must remember that He sees further than we do.

III. Acceptance.

A. It is the Lord, let Him do what seems good to Him. (I Samuel 3:18)

B. To follow Him is to indeed lose nothing and gain much.

C. The example of singleness.

1. God gave the speaker husbands (she was married three times); she did not pursue them.
2. The secret of tranquility is acceptance.
3. If you are single then for now that is the will of God - what we will receive tomorrow is none of our business. This is our daily bread - our circumstances - for now. Will we accept it?
4. Do we really want the will of God for our lives? Most want a smorgasbord of His will to choose from.
5. For the speaker the Lord exchanged the gift of singleness for marriage at 26 and then eventually she was to glorify God as a widow.

D. We have to take up our cross.

1. If there were another way then the Lord would have found another way for Jesus.
2. There was no other way as was shown in the agony of the garden. Jesus' human will had to line up with the Father's.
3. We must choose the cross.

E. If we are the sheep of His pasture, we must remember that sheep are headed for an altar (Jim Elliot). Tranquility is the fruit of acceptance and surrender.

IV. We are to live in company with Christ. (I Thessalonians 5:10)

A. We all want company. He who was self-sufficient died so that we could live in company with Him.

B. God took care of reconciliation, but we have a part. We must choose to trust Him.

C. God can take care of our uncontrollable feelings when we surrender them to Him.

1. Anger, bitterness, resentment can all be taken care of in Him. At the cross your burdens can be rolled away.

D. He died so that we might live in company with Him - this is a holy harmony.

**Application questions.**

1. Why is surrender so integral to having a holy harmony? How did Jesus model this in the garden?

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2. Why is acceptance so important? What are some of the more difficult circumstances that the speaker had to accept? What are some of your difficult circumstances? How did the speaker model a Christ like attitude in regards to the personal challenges she faced throughout her life?

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3. Which illustration of the speaker's stood out to you the most? What aspects of it challenged you to live in company with Christ? How will you invoke change in your own life as a result of this?

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