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Kim's Kaleidoscope for Singles
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Under Lock and Key

Do you have a most prized possession, something that is extremely precious to you? How do you take care of it? A lot of people have safe deposit boxes where they keep their most valued possessions under lock and key. Others purchase elaborate cabinets to keep their valuables organized and beautifully displayed. Most of us tend to take extra care with such valuables, and we go to extreme measures to keep them safe. As God's Word would have it, this is exactly the way you should look at your body.

2Corinthians 3:17-18(The Message) reminds us, *"You realize, don't you, that you are the temple of God, and God himself is present in you? No one will get by with vandalizing God's temple, you can be sure of that. God's temple is sacred—and you, remember, are the temple."* Your body is the temple of God, and it houses the most valuable thing you have, which is the indwelling Holy Spirit. The spirit of Christ dwells in a place that is so deep within your inner being that no other human being can take it out; not even the most skilled physician.

Ephesians 1:13(KJV) says *"after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise."* Let me tell you something, if God has sealed the Holy Spirit of promise within you, then no person can unseal you. Your body is an elaborate cabinet, and God has entrusted you to house the most beautiful and valuable treasure imaginable, but He holds the key, not you. He has sealed the gift within your temple, and not only do you have to take care of the temple, but you also have to care for what the temple houses.

You are the security guard of the Father's most holy gift. You have been given the authority, power, and privilege to ensure your treasure's safekeeping. As you stand on the Word of God through your actions, thoughts, conversations, and behaviors, you ensure that the spirit within your inner being swells. As you nurture your soul by living according to God's Word, you will grow and flourish through the spirit. That is the key to protecting your treasure from being vandalized. It is the key to keeping your temple sacred and pleasing to the Father.

No one else, no matter how fine a human specimen he may be, should have access to your temple UNLESS he receives it the way God, Himself, has ordained. I heard someone say the other day that marriage is just a piece of paper. Boy, we'll use any-and-everything, including the kitchen sink, to go against what God has told us. God's Word is written on paper, so when paper contains life-giving covenants and promises, it becomes meaningful and important. In other words, paper becomes a crucial part of our existence when it symbolizes the Father's Will and desires for mankind.

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Marriage is so much more than a piece of paper. It is more than just a part of man's law. It is a covenant that two people make before God... FOR God. They make a commitment to serve one another as He has ordained, so that His plan and purpose can continue to progress in the earth.

So you need to know that as a woman of God, and also as a man of God, that by allowing someone to violate your temple, you injure your body in ways you can't imagine. As a matter of fact, nothing can tear you down more than allowing someone to dishonor your temple through sexual immorality. God has ordained that only your spouse should be able to access your safe haven. Unless you are someone's wife—unless they've been given a valuable and legal piece of paper called a marriage license, then you don't allow them access to your temple. You do everything within your power to keep your treasure under lock and key.

You belong to God. You are not your own; therefore your temple isn't yours to give away. Your body should remain preserved for the committed relationship of marriage. It's not hard to understand why God would set it up this way, sisters. God's love is the glue that binds every good thing together. His plan for us is golden. It's extraordinarily wonderful! God's plan and purpose dictates that a husband and wife, who are committed to God and to each other, are the perfect demonstration of the love of Christ. So if a man isn't willing to marry you, but is all too happy to keep you around for the purposes of having sex with him, then no matter how nice he is, you are allowing the forces of darkness to feast on your soul and vandalize your temple. Nothing is worth this.

Understand that you can never blame the man for not loving you the way you deserve when you neglect God's Word. If a nice man shows interest, and you tell him that you're waiting to get married before you engage in a physical relationship, and he doesn't stick around, then you know beyond any and all doubt that he's not the one for you. Keep your line of communication with God open by praying often, and don't give sexual sin any place in your life. Keep it Godly, keep it sacred, and until you get that piece of paper, keep it under lock and key. ●

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