

I Do

By Steve Pruitt

Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

Psalm 73:25 ESV

The month of May has a very special place in Pruitt family history. Besides Mother's Day, the last of our five children was born in May. However, the most important day in our family's history in the month of May is May 9. May 9, 1980 was the day that Stevey Wayde Pruitt and Renae Marie McClendon said "I do" before God and a gathering of relatives and friends at a small United Methodist Church in Crossville, Alabama.

"Til death do you part" and "As long as you both shall live" are some of the vows that are typically heard during a traditional wedding. But it's the response that follows those vows that may be the most important words of the ceremony; "I do."

When bride and groom pledge their devotion in marriage they not only say "I do" to each other they also say "I don't" to everyone else. Their vow is to each other and no other. Maybe the psalmist captures the depth of this pledge when he wrote to God, *Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.* (Psalm 73:25 ESV)

The Hebrew word for desire (chaphets) interprets the psalmist words as "And there is nothing on earth I am inclined to, that I bend toward, that I am pleased with, that I take delight in, have favor toward, or take pleasure in besides you." It seems the psalmist has said "I do" to God and "I don't" to everything else.

As the bride of Christ our vow to God should be no different. We have been betrothed to one husband and all our desire should be for him. We should be so in love with him that there is no love left for worldly desires or self indulgences. Our betrothed, the Lord Jesus, is the one in whom all our pleasure lies; we want nothing more. We have taken his name and our identity has been absorbed in him. We will be married to him forever.

Have you said "I do" to Jesus? Do you still find pleasure in sin? Does Jesus fulfill every desire of your heart? Ask the Father to give you a love for none other but him.

NOTES: _____

Scriptures for meditation:

- Psalm 145:16, 19
- 2 Corinthians 11:2
- 2 Timothy 2:19
- James 1:15
- Revelations 21:2, 9