



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

“True marriage involves falling in love many times, but always with the same person.”

A Fair

The fair in my home county is considered to be America's first fair. A charter to hold a fair was granted to the people of York by Thomas Penn, son of William Penn in recognition of “the flourishing state to which the town hath arrived through their industry.” At that time (1765), the County Fair existed as a two-day agricultural market on the town commons that is now known as Penn Park. In 1853, a group of prominent agricultural leaders formed the York County Agricultural Society for the purpose of making the fair a three-day event and finding it a new home. During the Civil War, the fair was closed because the Secretary of War designated a hospital on the fairgrounds. In 1888, the fair had once again outgrown its location and it was moved to the 73-acre site that was eventually expanded to become the current York Fair/York Expo Center property. The fair was not held in 1918 due to an influenza outbreak that killed 166 people in York. During World War II, most fairs and the Pennsylvania Farm Show closed, but not the York Fair, causing plenty of controversy. The York Fair also remained open throughout the long war in Vietnam. In 1997, the fair became a ten-day event. The York Fair was underway during the tragic events of September 11, 2001. More than 160 events are now booked in the fair's buildings and grounds every year. Last year, over 555,000 people attended the fair. See more at yorkfair.org/.

I remember that while growing up that all schools would give Tuesday off so that you could go to the fair. We would go see the exhibits and shows, play the games, and eat the food. My father was one of the electricians for the fair for over 20 years. I remember taking my son to see a pig auction, there. My son raised his hand and the man said sold. We lived across from the fair for a year. I remember running sound for my church at the fair on 9/11 and the singing group was from where the plane went down in PA. So, all my life, the first of September has been known as the time that the county is having A Fair.

There is another type of “a fair” with which so many have gotten involved with. But this affair, destroys relationships, lives, marriages and families. Too many have fallen into this trap. My very best friend, who was preparing to be a Baptist preacher, ran off with another woman. I have not heard from him since. A similar thing happened to my wife's niece. To be honest, both my wife and I were tempted by the desire and excitement from another, during our 33 years of marriage. It was only by the grace of God, we saw the error of our ways before it was too late. Great men and women have been brought down over affairs. Even King David tried to cover up his affair with Bathsheba through murder.

To prevent an affair: Invest your time in being the best spouse possible. Guard yourself from being only with the opposite sex. Pray that God remove those whom you find attractive. Focus your heart on God.

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption.” Gal 6:7-8. “Be sure your sin will find you out.” Num 32:23. “Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.” Heb 13:4. So, when this type of “A Fair” comes just say NO! It will be harmful to your life.



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*“What God has joined together,
let no person put asunder.”*



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