

“You must not intermarry with them. Do not let your daughters and sons marry their sons and daughters, for they will lead your children away from me to worship other gods. Then the anger of the Lord will burn against you, and he will quickly destroy you.”

Deuteronomy 7:3-4 NLT

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Well, there it is, pretty clear that God did not intend for Israel to intermarry with their neighbors. And, God was also straightforward about what he wanted Israel to do with the people of those surrounding nations - kill em all. “When the Lord your God hands these nations over to you and you conquer them, you must completely destroy them. Make no treaties with them and show them no mercy.” This became an issue with the have mercy because God is merciful message in the New Testament. Alas, God doesn't have to check with any of us on how to run humanity and all of his creation. On these issues, I must return to God is always good, true and just. I just don't have all the facts some multi-thousands of years later. However, intermarriage was OFF the agenda back then. This, the whole reach the nations through Israel would wait until all the no mercy killing was complete. For sure, that when marriage happens, the family culture and DNA shifts drastically. Everything from food, clothing, finances and much more changes.

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Dad,
I feel like Robin took quite a risk in marrying a fairly new believer. I was barely five years in Jesus when we got married. I was learning as fast as I could, including Bible College, but it was still quite a culture shock for her when we starting building our own life. Then the added blessing/pressure of having children and how they would be raised was even more risky. I wasn't just a complete novice, my family history was chaotic and spotty when it came to Christian morals and principles. Thank you for patience as you continue to form me into the image of Jesus.

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root