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PRESENTS

# *My Personal Notes . . .*

Published as time and opportunity permit, usually a few times a week.  
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Ed Smithson, Editor

## “MATCHED PAIR”



My dad was a mule lover. He thought they worked best in the field. Ever since I can remember he always talked about having a “matched pair,” of mules. That was an expensive proposition in those days. He never got his “matched pair.”

There were several reasons he wanted that pair of mules. In the first place it was a prestige thing. Anyone that had a matched pair or anything, especially mules or horses, had more status than anyone else in the community. In the second place they were hard to come by. Think of it, two mules, sired by the same animal or a mother horse giving birth to twins, which was even more rare. He also thought they worked better together.

When you think about it, being a “matched pair” makes sense. There is something about the personalities of two who are of the same temperament. Amos said, “[Shall two walk together, except they have agreed?](#)” (Amos 3:3)

Generally a man and woman who get married for the right reasons are two people who think alike and can agree on the important things. In other

words they are a “matched pair.” When I was a youngster I noticed that two people who had been together a long time and grown a good marriage and family, even began to look alike.

The same is true with elders in a church. Present elders are prone to seeking others to serve with them that think like they do. For that matter, when you see preachers who stay with the church for several years you know that they are a “matched pair,” preacher and church.

It is a shame that far too many people who want to get married and churches and preachers who want to work together don't take the time to find out if they are a “matched pair.”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Smithson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

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November 25, 2009