

An examination of God's law, (and the error of men) on the subject of "marriage, divorce & remarriage.

- Marriage Is A Divine Institution and is Governed By The Laws Of God —
- ◆ A Controversial Subject!!
- ◆ An Emotional Subject!!
- **♦** A Personal Subject!!
- ★ An Extremely Important Subject!!!!!!
- ◆ A Subject That Needs To Be Addressed Often!

Genesis 2:18-24 (NKJV)

¹⁸ And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." . . . ²¹ And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. ²² Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.



²³ And Adam said: "This *is* now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Malachi 2:14-16 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Yet you say, "For what reason?" Because the Lord has been witness Between you and the wife of your youth, With whom you have dealt treacherously; Yet she is your companion And your wife by covenant. ¹⁵ But did He not make them one, Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring.



Therefore take heed to your spirit, And let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth. 16 "For the Lord God of Israel says That He hates divorce, For it covers one's garment with violence," Says the Lord of hosts. "Therefore take heed to your spirit, That you do not deal treacherously."

God's Institution

Genesis 2:24 (NKJV)

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

to impinge, i.e. cling or adhere; . . . abide fast, cleave (fast together), follow close (hard after), be joined (together), keep (fast), overtake, pursue hard, stick, take.

God is Witness

Malachi 2:14 (NKJV)
... the Lord has been witness Between you and the wife of your youth, ... she is your companion And your wife by covenant.

Prov 2:17
Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God.

God is Witness

Malachi 2:14 (NKJV)
... the Lord has been witness Between you and the wife of your youth, ... she is your companion And your wife by covenant.

Eccl 5:4-5 (NKJV)
When you make a vow to
God, do not delay to pay it;
For He has no pleasure in
fools. Pay what you have
vowed— Better not to vow
than to vow and not pay.

The Teaching of Jesus

Matthew 5:31-32 (NKJV)

31 "Furthermore it has been said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'

³² But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.



The Teaching of Jesus

MATTHEW 19:1-10

- 1. The question of the Pharisees... v. 3
- 2. Jesus' answer... v. 4-6
- 3. The Pharisees' attempt to put Jesus in conflict with Moses... v. 7-8
- 4. Jesus' teaching on divorce and remarriage... v. 9



The Teaching of Jesus

The Question Testing Jesus

Matthew 19:3 (NKJV)

³ The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for *just* any reason?"

Is the marriage relationship subject to be dissolved at the mere whim and pleasure of either party?

Akibah – Looks

Hillel – Cooking

Josephus – Any cause

The Teaching of Jesus

Jesus Appeals To God's Original Order

Matthew 19:4 (NKJV)

⁴ And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,'

The Answer: NO
Jesus refers them to
the original institution
governing ALL of
mankind

The Teaching of Jesus

Joined, (cleave KJV) - ροσκολλαο proskollao

Matthew 19:5 (NKJV)

⁵ and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?

What men are to do!
"to adhere to closely,
be faithfully devoted
to, join"

BDAG - A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature.

The Teaching of Jesus

Joined, συζεύγνυμι, syzeugnymi

Matthew 19:6 (NKJV)

⁶ So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

What God does!
"to yoke together" (syn,
"with," zygos, "a yoke"), is
used metaphorically of
union in wedlock, in Matt.
19:6; Mark 10:9.

 Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words

The Teaching of Jesus

The Pharisees' Objection

Matthew 19:7 (NKJV)

⁷ They said to Him,

"Why then did Moses
command to give a
certificate of divorce,
and to put her away?"

Moses said it was OK!!

They insinuate that He contradicts Moses — Moses had allowed such divorces, Deuteronomy 24:1 and if he had allowed them, they inferred that they could not be unlawful.

The Teaching of Jesus

The Pharisees' Objection

Matthew 19:8 (NKJV)

⁸ He said to them, "Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.

Moses "permitted it"

The law as given in Deuteronomy 24:1 to govern their failure to follow God's original design of marriage. Provided protection for the

woman.

The Teaching of Jesus

The Way It IS According To Jesus

9 And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery."

Fornication: The term is the Greek porneia, and is defined as "illicit sexual intercourse."

Fornication has reference to physical sexual intercourse with another.

The Teaching of Jesus

The Way It IS According To Jesus

- ◆ The man who divorces his wife FOR FORNICATION and marries another DOES NOT commit adultery.
- ◆ The man who divorces his wife FOR REASONS OTHER THAN FORNICATION and marries another commits adultery.
- ◆ The man who marries a woman who has been divorced (put away) commits adultery.



The Teaching of Jesus

Attempts of Men To Get Around This Text

- → Jesus was teaching the Old Law and does not apply to us – (Dan Billingsly)
- ◆ This Law does not apply to those in the world – only to Christians – (Homer Hailey)
- → Paul gives other exceptions in 1 Cor. 7
 - (Mike Willis)



The Teaching of Paul

Romans 7:2-3 (NKJV)

- ² For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband.
 - ³ So then if, while *her* husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.

The Teaching of Paul

1 Corinthians 7:2 (NKJV)
² Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.

Have your own wife, not another's, - 1 Cor 7:2; Mk

6:17-18 (Rom 7:3)

The Teaching of Paul

1 Corinthians 7:10-11 (NKJV) ¹⁰ Now to the married I command, yet not I but the Lord: A wife is not to depart from her husband. 11 But even if she does depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband. And a husband is not to divorce his wife.

- ◆ The command?
- ◆ The parenthetical phrase? (cf 1 John 2:1,2)
- What must be done if command is violated!

The Teaching of Paul

The Command

Wife not to depart

Husband not to divorce

But If you disobey the command, there are but two options:
Remain unmarried OR Be reconciled

The Teaching of Paul

1 Corinthians 7:15 (NKJV)

15 But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace.

Not "Under Bondage"

- (doulow): to make a slave, reduce to bondage
- ◆ Denotes a "servile condition."
- ◆ Noun and verb used 133 times in N.T., never refers to marriage bond.

The Teaching of Paul

1 Corinthians 7:15 (NKJV)

15 But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace.

Not "Under Bondage"

- ◆ The departure of the unbelieving spouse releases a person from spousal duties, but it does not sever the tie of marriage.
- ✦ Hold to Christ, even if it means being deserted by one's unbelieving spouse

The Teaching of Paul

1 Corinthians 7:15 (NKJV)

15 But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace.

Not "Under Bondage"

◆ A different Greek word is used for being "bound" in marriage deō .. which means "to tie, bind." (Logos Greek Lemma) - (as in I Cor. 7:27, 39; Rom 7:2).

Bound – but not a slave

Sin Involved In Every Divorce

Mal 2:13-16 Eccl 5:1-6 Mat 5:31,32 Mat 19:3-9 1 Cor 7:10,11

Remember Your Vows

- ◆I _____, take thee _____, to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till in death we part, -
- ◆ I, ____, take thee _____ to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till in death we part, -

God's Law On Marriage

- ◆ Marriage is the joining together by God one man and one woman for life.
- ◆ Divorce is sinful with but one exception
- ◆ Remarriage is adultery with but two exceptions



God's Law On Marriage

Matthew 19:4-6 (NKJV)

⁴ And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning *'made them male and female,'* ⁵ and said, *'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?* ⁶ So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

God's Law On Marriage

Matthew 19:8-9 (NKJV)

- ⁸ He said to them, "Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.
- ⁹ And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery."

Those Eligible For Marriage

- ◆One who has never been married (1 Cor. 7:8-9, 27-28)
- ◆ One whose first mate has died (Rom. 7:2-3; 1 Cor. 7:8-9, 39)
- ◆ One who has put away his mate for fornication (Mt. 19:9)
- ◆ One who reconciles with a lawful mate (1 Cor. 7:10-11)



Sin Is Committed If:

- ◆ One divorces his/her spouse for some reason other than adultery.
- ◆ One divorces his/her spouse for some reason other than adultery and marries another.
- ◆ A person marries another who is divorced and adultery by their mate was not the cause.
- ◆ The put away guilty mate remarries.



Repentance Is Required For Guilty

- ◆If contemplating divorce for ANY reason other than fornication reconsider in light of God's word.
- ◆If unlawfully divorced reconcile if possible.
- ◆If in a sinful relationship cease your involvement. Ezra 10:10-12



Charts by Don McClain

Prepared December 11, 2011
Preached December 11, 2011
West 65th Street church of Christ
P.O. Box 190062
Little Rock AR 72219
501-568-1062

Prepared using PPT 2010
Email – donmcclain@sbcglobal.net
More PPT & Audio Sermons:

http://w65stchurchofchrist.org/donmaccla/2010SermonPage.html

Note – Many of the transition effects used in this presentation may be lost using PPT 2007 Viewer

http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=cb9bf144-1076-4615-9951-294eeb832823&displaylang=en ³⁶

