

## Biblical Marriage, Divorce, & Singleness—Part 3

### Matthew 19:1-12

#### I. The Disciples' Statement (v. 10)

- a. The Pharisees are gone, and Jesus & His 12 disciples are in a house (cf. Mark 10:10)
- b. The disciples' ears had been tickled by generations of false teaching, to the point that they could not tolerate the thought of living under God's Standard of sexuality and marriage (cf. 2 Tim. 4:3-4):
  - i. God's Standard: "**Chastity before marriage, fidelity after marriage, and a lifelong commitment of one married partner to the other with no thought of divorce**" (Boice)
- c. Wrong Teaching results in Wrong Behavior!
  - i. The Jews had tolerated false teaching so long that they subjugated women and degraded marriage
    1. But women were made by God with equal value and worth (cf. Gen. 1:27)
    2. And marriage was designed to last a lifetime (cf. Prov. 5:18-19; 18:22; 19:14)

#### II. Jesus' Answer on Singleness (vs. 11-12)

- a. God designed a man and a woman to be:  
**C**\_\_\_\_\_ (Gen. 2:18; cf. Gen. 1:26-27; 1 Cor. 12: 12-27; Eph. 5:21-33; 1 Tim. 2:11-3:7; Titus 2:2-6)
- b. 3 Circumstances for Singleness:
  - i. Some are \_\_\_\_\_ to be Single
    1. **eunouchos** (εὐνοῦχος) means "a human male who without being castrated is by nature incapable of sexual intercourse—"impotent male"

- ii. Some are \_\_\_\_\_ to be Single
  1. **eunouchos** (εὐνοῦχος) means "a castrated male person"
    - a. Royal Harems
    - b. The Ethiopian Eunuch (cf. Acts 3)
    - c. Daniel? (cf. 2 Kings 20:18; Dan. 1:3 ESV)
    - d. Transgenderism?
- iii. Some are \_\_\_\_\_ to be Single
  1. **eunouchos** (εὐνοῦχος) = "a male person who abstains from marriage, and remains celibate"
  2. **for the sake of the kingdom of heaven** (cf. 1 Cor. 7:7-9)
    - a. It should be motivated by a desire to be focused on ministry, and it must be empowered by the gifting of the Holy Spirit.
  3. Singleness can also be a God ordained option for Christians!