

Ethics & Morals
Divorce & Remarriage
(Mt 19:9)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Morning
 - a. Good to see each of you here once again
2. Divorce & Remarriage
 - a. These are as common as eating a meal today
 - i. 54% divorce rate in America
 - b. The church is by far not unaffected by this
 - i. This is the reason there are so many different doctrines today on it
 - c. The church must stand up for righteousness even when other don't like it
 - i. Divorce & remarriage teachings are no different
3. We must hold fast that which will keep our soul pure and teach others so that they will not be surprised on the judgment day.

I. God's Law On Marriage

- A. Between one man & one woman
 1. **Gn 2:24** "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife..."
 2. **Mt 19:4-5** "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..."
- B. They are to be pure and dedicated to each other
 1. **He 13:4** "Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge."
 2. Become one flesh
 - i. **Mt 19:5** "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'?"
 - ii. **Ep 5:28** "So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself."
- C. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate
 1. **Mt 19:6** "So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."
 2. God hates divorce
 - i. **Ma 2:16** "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."

II. God's Law On Divorce

- A. Those that divorce for any reason (other than fornication)
 - 1. Cannot remarry
 - i. **Mk 10:11-12** "So He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her. 12 And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.""
 - ii. **Lk 16:18** "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced from her husband commits adultery."
- B. Divorce for fornication
 - 1. Can remarry
 - i. **Mt 5:32** "But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality [fornication] causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery." (sexual immorality is an inaccurate translation)
 - ii. **Mt 19:9** "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality [fornication], and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery." (Ibid)
 - 2. Fornication
 - i. Any physically sexual act
 - a. Adultery, homosexuality, bestiality...

III. Some Popular Questions Of Today

- A. Can the guilty party remarry?
 - 1. First there is no mention of in scripture that states they cannot
 - i. No "Thou shalt not"
 - 2. Second this means they cannot – law of exclusion
 - i. The innocent is told yes thus the guilty is told no
 - a. **Mt 19:9**
- B. Are non-Christian's under God's law of marriage?
 - 1. Everyone is accountable to the gospel of Christ
 - i. **II Co 5:10** "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."
 - ii. **Ro 2:16** "in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel."
 - 2. Everyone will be judged by the words of Christ
 - i. **Jn 12:48** "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him — the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day."
 - 3. **Mt 19:1-12** are the words of Christ

- C. Does Paul give another way to get remarried?
1. No – **Mt 19:9** is for Xians and non-Xians
 - i. If that is the case than Paul cannot have something different.
 2. What does he mean then by “not under bondage”
 - i. First the word bondage is douloo not deo
 - a. Deo is used when the comparison between bond and marriage is made
 1. **Ro 7:2** "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."
 - b. Douloo is used 133 times and this would be the only time it is used. It means bond-slave or the lowest form of slavery.
 - ii. Second the Greek grammar does not add up
 - a. But if the unbeliever departs let him depart...
 1. The 1st "depart" is in the indicative present meaning current action not continues
 2. The 2nd "depart" is just in the present meaning continues action
 - i. Thus “if the unbeliever divorces you let him go on and don’t stop him
 - b. ...a brother or sister is not under bondage in such cases...
 1. Under bondage - is in the perfect tense which describes a process, that took place in the past, with the results continuing to the present ie “has not been under bondage
 2. So if the unbeliever leaves let him go because you were never enslaved to him. In other words you did not have to give up Christ to follow him. Choose me or Him.
 - iii. How do we know it is talking about never being enslaved?
 - a. "God has called us to peace."
 1. Has called – perfect tense
 2. God has always called us to peace
- D. Can those that are in an unauthorized marriage repent and stay in that marriage?
1. No, how can you repent and stay in a sin?
 - i. Can a homosexual repent of homosexuality and continue in a homosexual relationship?
 - ii. Can a polygamist repent of polygamy and still keep all his women?
- E. Can a person or couple get baptized and stay together in an unauthorized marriage?
1. Baptism does not wash away sin that is unrepented of
 - i. **Ac 2:38** "Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..."
 2. If you haven't repented by mind and action you have not repented
 - i. **Lk 3:8** "Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance..."

CONCLUSION

1. Divorce is a part of our society but that does not mean that we bend God's word to fit the norm. Everyone almost is saying baptism is not essential yet we defy that notion but on divorce because of the family situation we crumble at the tears of the lost. We have a responsibility to teach truth to save souls not comfort souls on earth to let them burn for eternity.
2. Invitation