

One Man – One Woman For Life

*What the Bible teaches about
marriage, divorce and remarriage.*

God's law on the permanence of marriage:

Have you read ... For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh?

So that they are no more two, but one flesh.

What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

Mat. 19:5-6

For disciples of Christ

“If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry” (Mat. 19:10).

- ◆ *It is easier to understand the will of God than to do it.*
- ◆ *Are we willing to submit to God and do what the Bible teaches about marriage?*

So, how did things go?

Not so good:

- ◆ Lamech – Gen 4:19-24
- ◆ Abraham w/Hagar – Gen. 16 & 17
- ◆ Jacob's wives, *plus* - Gen. 29-30

This was NOT acceptable! Do not take God's failure to react as sign of approval.

Moses' Laws Regarding Marriage

- ◆ Exodus 20:14, 17
 - ◆ Leviticus 18-21
 - ◆ Numbers 5:11-31
 - ◆ Deut. 21-25
- Consequences for violation – *extreme!*
- ◆ Deut. 22:20-29
 - ◆ Leviticus 20-21

God is serious about this!

So, how did things go?

From bad to worse:

- ◆ Lamech – Gen 4:19-24
 - ◆ Abraham w/Hagar – Gen. 16 & 17
 - ◆ Jacob's wives, *plus* - Gen. 29-30
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- ◆ David's adultery – 2 Samuel 11-12 ... 15
 - ◆ Solomon's wives – 1 Kings 11:1-8

God's judgment was clear!

Divorce was allowed....?!

Matthew 19:3-8

- ◆ Jesus reviews God's law – *not put asunder*
- ◆ Jesus reviews law regarding divorce ... emphasizing God's intent:

**Deuteronomy
24:1-4**

So, it's not so bad?

God's attitude about divorce did not change through time:

- ◆ Malachi 2:13-17
- ◆ Matthew 19:7-12

The words of Christ on divorce and remarriage:

◆ Matthew 5:32

But I say to you that whoever divorces his

◆ Matthew 19:9

And I say to you,

◆ Mark 10:11-12

“Whoever divorces his

◆ Luke 16:18

“Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced from *her* husband commits adultery.

visualizing remarriage



*It's all adultery
with only one exception.*



What the apostles say about marriage, divorce and remarriage?

◆ Hebrews 13:4

◆ Romans 7:1-4

◆ 1 Corinthians 7

- Let each have his own...
- Do not deprive one another...
- Not to depart... remain unmarried or reconciled...
- Do not divorce (unbeliever)...
- Let them depart ... not bound...

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Answering questions about divorce and remarriage:

- ◆ Do marriages before one becomes a Christian matter? **YES**
- ◆ Can the unfaithful person remarry after the spouse marries again? **NO**
- ◆ Can the Christian who's spouse departs marry again? **NO**

Note: divorce always involves sin:

Even if decide I will not remarry ... I:

- ◆ Break what God has joined – Mt. 19
- ◆ Cause spouse to commit adultery – Mt. 5
- ◆ Sin in selfishness against spouse – 1 Cor.7
- ◆ Sin in depriving children of family – Eph. 6

[Even separation must be carefully limited.]

Summary of instruction:

- ◆ One man married to one woman.
- ◆ Married until death.
- ◆ Subsequent marriages = adultery.
- ◆ If divorced – remain unmarried or be reconciled.
- ◆ One exception: put away spouse for sexual immorality - can marry again.
- ◆ If spouse dies, may remarry lawfully.

Ask God who has the right remarry.

Two answers in His word:

1. “whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery” Mat. 19:9
2. “if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man” Rom. 7:3

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