

Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage

Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage

1) Introduction

- * Bible teaching strengthens marriage
- * Best when both follow God
- * Church needs to uphold truth
- * Definitions

DEFINITIONS

1) **Divorce** - ἀπολυο #630 (Thayer) "to loose from, sever by loosening, undo....4. used of divorce...to dismiss from the house, to repudiate"

2) **Adultery** - #3429 (Thayer) "to have unlawful intercourse with another's wife, to commit adultery with" Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon

Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage

- 1) Introduction
- 2) **What Jesus taught**

What Jesus taught...
... when divorce is NOT for fornication

	Husband 1	Wife 2	Wife 1	Husband 2
Matt 5:32	(D)		Adultery	Adultery
(D) = The one who divorces their spouse				

Divorce is NOT for fornication

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Matt 19:9	(D) Adultery			Adultery
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Matt 19:9	(D) Adultery			Adultery
Mark 10:11,12	(D) Adultery		(D) Adultery	
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Luke 16:18	(D) Adultery			Adultery
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Mark 10:11,12	Adultery		Adultery	
Luke 16:18	Adultery			Adultery
<u>SUMMARY</u> →	Adultery	?	Adultery	Adultery

Is it possible for Wife 2 not to be in adultery, when Jesus said her husband’s marriage to her is an adulterous one?

NO, it is not possible, due to the definition of adultery

- “to have unlawful intercourse with another’s wife, **to commit adultery with**” Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon #3429
- Adultery is not something only one person can be involved in; it takes two people
- So by implication....

Divorce is NOT for fornication

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Matt 5:32			Adultery	Adultery
Matt 19:9	Adultery	Adultery	Adultery	Adultery
Mark 10:11,12	Adultery	Adultery	Adultery	Adultery
Luke 16:18	Adultery	Adultery	Adultery	Adultery

Adultery implied for Wife 2

Divorce is FOR fornication

	Husband 1	Wife 2	Wife 1	Husband 2
Matt 5:32	ACCEPTABLE	ACCEPTABLE	Adultery	Adultery
Matt 19:9	ACCEPTABLE	ACCEPTABLE	Adultery	Adultery
Husband 1 is innocent; Wife 1 is guilty				

Is it possible for the **guilty** party (Wife 1) to remarry without committing adultery?

Divorce is FOR fornication

	Husband 1	Wife 2	Wife 1	Husband 2
Matt 5:32	ACCEPTABLE	ACCEPTABLE	Adultery	Adultery
Matt 19:9	ACCEPTABLE	ACCEPTABLE	Adultery	Adultery
Husband 1 is innocent; Wife 1 is guilty				

NO..... Because:

- * People should not benefit from their own sin

Matt 19:9-12

WHO has right to remarry?

Innocent spouse who puts away their spouse who is guilty of adultery

- Jesus did not give anyone else that right
- Sexual immorality must occur before divorce, not after
- It must be the cause of divorce, not result of divorce

Matt 19:9-12

This can be difficult to accept:

(10) “If such is the case...”

So is...

- Spouse incapacitated
- Spouse imprisoned

DIVORCE is sinful

Matt 5:32

- * One who puts away (divorces) spouse
- * When NO fornication is involved
- * **Causes** their mate to commit adultery
- * Thus, **divorce itself is sinful**

Matt 18:6-7 If you **cause someone else to sin...WOE** to you, better to be drowned in the sea

Mal 2:16 **God hates divorce!**

What do we learn from Jesus?

- Husband & wife both commit adultery if they remarry (divorce not for fornication)
- Innocent party may remarry, if they put the guilty one away for fornication
- Adultery must occur before the divorce, and must be the cause of the divorce
- Divorce itself is sinful if unscriptural, since it causes others to sin

Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage

- 1) Introduction
- 2) What Jesus taught
- 3) **What Paul taught**

What the apostle Paul taught...

Rom 7:1-3

- Husband/wife bound by God's marriage laws until death
- Marriage can be ended by unlawful divorce, but God still binds them together
- God recognizes that an unscriptural divorce occurs, but does not approve

What the apostle Paul taught...

1Cor 7:10-11

- Wife is not to depart/husband is not to divorce (command)
- Does “depart” = divorce? YES, because:
 - 1) God considers her “unmarried” (11)
 - 2) Reverse situation is called “divorce” (11)
 - 3) Thayer “to leave a husband or wife: of divorce, 1 Co vii. 11, 15”

1Cor 7:10-11

- Vs 10 Wife is not to depart, vs. 11 “but if she does depart” – contradiction???
- Vs. 11 does not give permission for departing/divorce
- It regulates situations once they have occurred. Similar to...
- 1 Jn 2:1 Don't sin, but if you do...
- Command still applies “A wife is not to depart from her husband.”

1Cor 7:10-11

- Note only 2 choices for those in this situation:
 - Remain unmarried
 - Be reconciled to spouse
- No scriptural right to marry someone else
 - Only death of spouse, or adultery by spouse are acceptable reasons one can marry again

1Cor 7:12-16

- Spouse's unfaithfulness to God not a reason to divorce
- Married to unbeliever? Stay together.
- Work to win them to the Lord

1Cor 7:12-16

- **Vs. 15** If one spouse leaves the marriage, other spouse is not “under bondage”
- Is abandonment a 2ND reason to divorce & remarry scripturally?

1Cor 7:12-16

- NO, abandonment is not a 2ND reason to divorce & remarry scripturally
- It's not talking about being released from marriage bond

1Cor 7:12-16

1) Different Greek word (#1402) here, than in Rom 7:2 (#1210)

- Thayer's definitions:

1 Cor 7:15 - #1402 douloo "to make a slave of, reduce to bondage...held by constraint of law or necessity"

Rom 7:2 - #1210 deo "to bind, i.e. put under obligation...to be bound to one...of a wife, Ro. vii.2"

1Cor 7:15 – 2ND reason for divorce & remarriage?

NO, because:

- 1) Different Greek word (#1402) here, than in Rom 7:2 (#1210)
- 2) It would contradict what Paul said in vs. 11...she must remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband

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What it does teach → spouse no longer required to perform marital duties

What do we learn from Paul?

- Scripturally married couples are bound together by God's law
- Remarriage before spouse dies is adultery; after is acceptable
- Those whose marriage has already ended, for unscriptural reasons must remain unmarried, or be reconciled to their spouse
- Only death of spouse, or adultery by mate, that allows for divorce and remarriage

Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage

- 1) Introduction
- 2) What Jesus taught
- 3) What Paul taught
- 4) **What do men teach?**

What do men teach?

- 1) Divorce for any cause
- 2) Marriage laws don't apply
- 3) Mental divorce allowed