

## Marriage Divorce and Remarriage

Who does God authorize to divorce and remarry?

## Introduction

- Contrary to God's Word, divorce and remarriage are common today
- Marriage has become a joke and divorce is looked on by many as a mere convenience so one can move on to the next relationship without any concern
- Since God created humanity and marriage, He is the only one that has the right to command concerning marriage, divorce and remarriage

2

## God intends marriage to last until death

- God, from the beginning until now, intends for all lawful (in His sight) marriages to continue until death
- Each lawful marriage is more than just a legal agreement between a man and a woman
- When a lawful (in His sight) marriage occurs, God witnesses the marriage covenant and joins the two, binding them to His marriage law until death

3

## God intends marriage to last until death

- This becomes important because no matter what a man or woman may try to do, this divinely authorized marriage bond can only be truly ended by God under whatever conditions He authorizes

4

## God intends marriage to last until death

Mat 19:3 *Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?"*

Mat 19:4 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,

5

## God intends marriage to last until death

Mat 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'?

Mat 19:6 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

6

## God intends marriage to last until death

1Co 7:39 A wife is bound as long as her husband lives; but if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

7

God witnesses the marriage covenant and binds the two to His marriage law for life

Pro 2:16 To deliver you from the strange woman, From the adulteress who flatters with her words;

Pro 2:17 That leaves the companion of her youth And forgets the covenant of her God;

8

God witnesses the marriage covenant and binds the two to His marriage law for life

Mal 2:14 "Yet you say, 'For what reason?' Because the LORD has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant.

9

God witnesses the marriage covenant and binds the two to His marriage law for life

Rom 7:2 For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.

Rom 7:3 So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man.

10

## God hates divorce

- Divorce is common today as it was in ancient Rome
- Man's attitude is, "If it does not work out, we can just get a divorce."
- God reveals His hatred for divorce and gives consequences that if ignored can cause us and others to be lost
- All divorces involve sin either by one or both spouses

11

## God hates divorce

Mal 2:14 "Yet you say, 'For what reason?' Because the LORD has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant.

12

## God hates divorce

Mal 2:15 "But not one has done so who has a remnant of the Spirit. And what did that one do while he was seeking a godly offspring? Take heed then to your spirit, and let no one deal treacherously against the wife of your youth.

13

## God hates divorce

Mal 2:16 "For I hate divorce," says the LORD, the God of Israel, "and him who covers his garment with wrong," says the LORD of hosts. "So take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously."

14

## A Plea for humble honest open Study on this and all subjects

- As with all subjects, I encourage all to humbly and honestly search the Scriptures to see whether these things are so
- At times, as is the case now, I have had to adjust my teaching due to further study
- But on this or any other topic, I admit I can be wrong on one or more points

15

## A Plea for humble honest open Study on this and all subjects

Act 17:11 Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.

16

## Who does not have the right to remarry according to God's word?

- I never want to forbid what God permits or to permit what God forbids
- Also, God's authority concerning marriage will often conflict with human authority
- What we may be permitted to do legally will often be condemned by God
- God's remarriage restrictions in effect until the lawful spouse dies

17

## God's remarriage restrictions in effect until the lawful spouse dies

Rom 7:2 For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.

Rom 7:3 So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man.

18

## Four key questions about marriage divorce and remarriage

1. Were you joined by God to another in a lawful marriage, bound together until death?
2. How did your original lawful marriage end?
3. Is your original lawful spouse still living?
4. Has God given you and the one you want to marry (or remarry) the right to marry?

19

One who divorced their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

Mar 10:11 And He \*said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her;

Mar 10:12 and if she herself divorces her husband and marries another man, she is committing adultery."

Luk 16:18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery.

20

One who divorced their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

Mat 19:7 They \*said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE AND SEND her AWAY?"

Mat 19:8 He \*said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way.

21

One who divorced their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

22

One who divorced their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

1Co 7:10 But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband

1Co 7:11 (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

23

## One divorced by their innocent lawful spouse for fornication

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

24

One divorced by their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

Mat 5:31 "It was said, 'WHOEVER SENDS HIS WIFE AWAY, LET HIM GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE';

Mat 5:32 but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for *the* reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

25

One divorced by their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

Luk 16:18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery.

26

One divorced by their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

1Co 7:10 But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband

1Co 7:11 (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

27

One divorced by their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

1Co 7:12 But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her.

1Co 7:13 And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, she must not send her husband away.

28

One divorced by their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

1Co 7:14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy.

1Co 7:15 Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, but God has called us to peace.

29

One divorced by their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

- Matthew 19:9 applies to all people
- Bondage in 1 Cor. 7:15 is a different word than bound in 1 Cor. 7:39 and Rom. 7:2
- Word bondage in 1 Cor. 7:15 refers to enslavement and not marriage bond
- Not under bondage means never has been under enslavement
- Therefore bondage cannot refer to marriage in 1 Cor. 7:15

30

Who does not have the right to remarry according to God's word?

1. One who divorced their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication
2. One divorced by their innocent lawful spouse for fornication
3. One divorced by their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

31

## Marriage Divorce and Remarriage

1. God intends marriage to last until death
2. God witnesses the marriage covenant and binds the two together for life
3. God hates divorce
4. Who does not have the right to remarry according to God's word?

32

Who does not have the right to remarry according to God's word?

1. One who divorced their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication
2. One divorced by their innocent lawful spouse for fornication
3. One divorced by their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

33

## Four key questions about marriage divorce and remarriage

1. Were you joined by God to another in a lawful marriage, bound together until death?
2. How did your original lawful marriage end?
3. Is your original lawful spouse still living?
4. Has God given you and the one you want to marry the right to marry?

34

God joins together two who have never married in marriage until death

- I do not pretend to have all the answers on this difficult study
- But, I believe it is essential for us to always go back to the significance of the first marriage where God joins two together for life
- Usually we start where people are now, sometimes in an unlawful adulterous marriage where emotion often blinds us to clearly seeing God's Word

35

God joins together two who have never married in marriage until death

- All restrictions regarding divorce and remarriage relate to the sinful separating of the lawful marriage before the death of those joined by God
- Witnessing the original marriage covenant, God binds the two together to His marriage law for life
- Therefore, all restrictions are in force until the death of the original lawful spouse occurs

36

God joins together two who have never married in marriage until death

Mat 19:3 *Some* Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Is it lawful *for a man* to divorce his wife for any reason at all?"

Mat 19:4 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,

37

God joins together two who have never married in marriage until death

Mat 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'?

Mat 19:6 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

38

God joins together two who have never married in marriage until death

Rom 7:2 For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.

Rom 7:3 So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man.

39

One whose lawful spouse has died

- When two remain lawfully married and one spouse dies, then the living spouse has the right to marry anyone who can lawfully (in God's sight) marry
- I also believe those who are restricted from remarrying can remarry upon the death of their lawful spouse
- They must repent of and end any unlawful marriage where they are married to someone who has no right to marry

40

One whose lawful spouse has died

1Co 7:39 A wife is bound as long as her husband lives; but if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

41

One whose lawful spouse has died

Rom 7:2 For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.

Rom 7:3 So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man.

42

The innocent lawful spouse who divorced their lawful spouse for fornication

Mat 19:7 They \*said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE AND SEND her AWAY?"

Mat 19:8 He \*said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way.

The innocent lawful spouse who divorced their lawful spouse for fornication

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Two in a lawful marriage may remarry each other even after divorce and remarriage

1Co 7:10 But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband

1Co 7:11 (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

- Sometimes those who God gives a right to marry, marry those whom He has forbidden to marry
- They marry someone who is still bound to God's marriage law because they have a living lawful spouse who they did not divorce for fornication
- Therefore, in these marriages, God does not join the two together in a lawful marriage

God does not join these together in lawful marriage	With these as long as their lawful spouse is living
1. One who has never been lawfully married in God's sight	1. One who divorced their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication
2. One whose lawful spouse has died	2. One divorced by their innocent lawful spouse for fornication
3. The innocent lawful spouse who divorced their lawful spouse for fornication	3. One divorced by their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

- Those in unlawful marriages must repent and end them
- The one bound by God's marriage law while their lawful spouse lives cannot remarry
- Because God never joined them together in the unlawful marriage, if there is one who has the right to marry, they may marry anyone who also has the right to marry



## Repent of all unlawful marriages that result in continuing adultery

Mar 6:17 For Herod himself had sent and had John arrested and bound in prison on account of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, because he had married her.

Mar 6:18 For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

49

## Repent of all unlawful marriages that result in continuing adultery

1Co 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

1Co 6:10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

50

## Repent of all unlawful marriages that result in continuing adultery

1Co 6:11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

51

## One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

Mat 19:3 *Some* Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Is it lawful *for a man* to divorce his wife for any reason at all?"

Mat 19:4 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,

52

## One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

Mat 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'?

Mat 19:6 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

53

## One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

Mat 19:7 They \*said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE AND SEND her AWAY?"

Mat 19:8 He \*said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way.

54

One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

55

One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

Mar 10:11 And He \*said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her;  
Mar 10:12 and if she herself divorces her husband and marries another man, she is committing adultery."

56

One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

Luk 16:18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery."

57

One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

Rom 7:2 For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.  
Rom 7:3 So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man.

58

One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

Heb 13:4 Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

59

Who does not have the right to remarry according to God's word?

1. One who divorced their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication
2. One divorced by their innocent lawful spouse for fornication
3. One divorced by their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

60

## Who has the right to remarry according to God's word?

1. One whose lawful spouse has died
2. The innocent lawful spouse who divorced their lawful spouse for fornication
3. Two in a lawful marriage may remarry each other even after divorce and remarriage
4. One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

61

## Marriage Divorce and Remarriage

1. God intends marriage to last until death
2. God witnesses the marriage covenant and binds the two together for life
3. God hates divorce
4. Who does not have the right to remarry according to God's word?
5. Who has the right to remarry according to God's word?
6. Overcoming false teachings about marriage divorce and remarriage

62

## Who has the right to remarry according to God's word?

1. One whose lawful spouse has died
2. The innocent lawful spouse who divorced their lawful spouse for fornication
3. Two in a lawful marriage may remarry each other even after divorce and remarriage
4. One who ends an unbound unlawful marriage that has the right to marry

63

## The gospel applies to Christians only

- The gospel, including marriage, divorce and remarriage law, only applies to Christians
- Those in the world who marry, divorce and remarry are not accountable to God
- When they become Christians, whatever marriage they are in is acceptable to God

64

## What the New Testament says

- Jesus stated that God's marriage law has been from the beginning which would include all people, whether they were Christians or not
- To become a Christian, repentance is required including sins like adultery
- All must end adulterous marriages no matter when they were started either before or after baptism

65

## Jesus says God's marriage law is from the beginning

Mat 19:3 Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?"

Mat 19:4 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,

66

## Jesus says God's marriage law is from the beginning

Mat 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'?

Mat 19:6 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

67

## Jesus says God's marriage law is from the beginning

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

68

## All must repent of sins including marriage God calls adultery

1Co 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

69

## All must repent of sins including marriage God calls adultery

1Co 6:10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

1Co 6:11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

70

## Baptism washes away previous marriages

- Similar to previous false teaching
- When baptized, all sins are forgiven
- When baptized, all past marriages are void
- Whatever state you are in at baptism, you can stay in it

71

## What the New Testament says

- The Lord demands repentance of all sins, including adulterous marriages, as one of the conditions for being baptized
- Repentance leads to stopping what is sinful and doing what is right
- If sinful marriages exist, they must be ended

72

## Belief and repentance of all sins commanded with baptism

Mar 16:16 "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

73

## Belief and repentance of all sins commanded with baptism

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

74

## Repentance of all sins including repenting and ending adulterous marriages

Col 3:5 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

Col 3:6 For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience,

Col 3:7 and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.

75

## Desertion by unbelieving spouse justifies divorce and remarriage

- Matthew 19:9 only applies to Christians married to Christians
- 1 Cor. 7:10-11 confirms Matthew 19:9 applies only to Christians married to Christians
- 1 Cor. 7:12-15 gives a believer the right to divorce and remarry when deserted by an unbeliever

76

## What the New Testament says

- Jesus contrasted what God's original marriage law was with what was allowed under Law of Moses
- Paul confirms that Christians should not divorce one another for any reason they desire

77

## What the New Testament says

- Matthew 19:9 applies to all people
- Bondage in 1 Cor. 7:15 is a different word than bound in 1 Cor. 7:39 and Rom. 7:2
- Word bondage in 1 Cor. 7:15 refers to enslavement and not marriage bond
- Not under bondage means never has been under enslavement
- Therefore bondage cannot refer to marriage in 1 Cor. 7:15

78

## God's original marriage law applies to all

Mat 19:3 Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?"

Mat 19:4 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,

79

## God's original marriage law applies to all

Mat 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'?

Mat 19:6 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

80

## Jesus' marriage law applies to all

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

81

Bondage refers to enslavement and not to the marriage bond established by God

1Co 7:10 But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband

1Co 7:11 (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

82

Bondage refers to enslavement and not to the marriage bond established by God

1Co 7:12 But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her.

1Co 7:13 And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, she must not send her husband away.

83

Bondage refers to enslavement and not to the marriage bond established by God

1Co 7:14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy.

1Co 7:15 Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, but God has called us to peace.

84

## Bound refers to God binding a man and a woman in marriage for life

Rom 7:2 For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.

Rom 7:3 So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man.

85

## Bound refers to God binding a man and a woman in marriage for life

1Co 7:39 A wife is bound as long as her husband lives; but if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

86

## Overcoming False Teachings About Marriage Divorce And Remarriage

1. The gospel applies to Christians only
2. Baptism washes away previous marriages
3. Desertion by unbelieving spouse justifies divorce and remarriage

87

## Marriage Divorce and Remarriage

1. God intends marriage to last until death
2. God witnesses the marriage covenant and binds the two together for life
3. God hates divorce
4. Who does not have the right to remarry according to God's word?
5. Who has the right to remarry according to God's word?
6. Overcoming false teachings about marriage divorce and remarriage

88

## Overcoming False Teachings About Marriage Divorce And Remarriage

1. The gospel applies to Christians only
2. Baptism washes away previous marriages
3. Desertion by unbelieving spouse justifies divorce and remarriage

89

## Mental divorce

- The Lord does not recognize divorces for any reason except for fornication
- Therefore those who divorce for other reasons than fornication are still married in God's sight

90

## Mental divorce

- Those who unlawfully remarry after a divorce not for fornication commit adultery against their first spouse because they are still married to them
- When their spouse unlawfully marries, the unjustly divorced spouse has the right to execute a “mental” divorce in their heart for the reason of fornication (adultery) and remarry

91

## What the New Testament says

- God recognizes sinful divorces and remarriages and their sinful results without approving of these actions
- When a sinful divorce occurs, (not for fornication) the two become unmarried but neither have the right to remarry (unless they marry each other) until the death of their original lawful spouse occurs
- There is no mental divorce after a sinful divorce revealed in the New Testament

92

## What the New Testament says

- Those who divorce their spouse (not for fornication) and marry another commit adultery
- Those who are divorced by their spouse (not for fornication) and marry another commits adultery
- Only those who divorce their spouse for fornication have God’s approval to remarry

93

## When divorce not for fornication occurs God recognizes the two as unmarried

Mat 19:3 Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?"

Mat 19:4 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,

94

## When divorce not for fornication occurs God recognizes the two as unmarried

Mat 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'?

Mat 19:6 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

95

## When divorce not for fornication occurs God recognizes the two as unmarried

1Co 7:10 But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband

1Co 7:11 (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

96



God forbids those sinfully divorced from remarrying until death of their lawful spouse

Rom 7:2 For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.

Rom 7:3 So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man.

97

God forbids those sinfully divorced from remarrying until death of their lawful spouse

Mat 5:31 "It was said, 'WHOEVER SENDS HIS WIFE AWAY, LET HIM GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE';

Mat 5:32 but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

98

God forbids those sinfully divorced from remarrying until death of their lawful spouse

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Luk 16:18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery.

99

God forbids those sinfully divorced from remarrying until death of their lawful spouse

1Co 7:39 A wife is bound as long as her husband lives; but if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

100

The innocent spouse that divorces their spouse for fornication may remarry

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

101

Those sinfully divorced may be reconciled, marry one another

1Co 7:10 But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband

1Co 7:11 (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

102

## Divorce for the kingdom of heaven's sake

- Based on their misunderstanding of Matt. 19:10-12, 1 Cor. 7:10-11 and other passages, they wrongly conclude that for a variety of reasons, a Christian may divorce their spouse and not sin
- This teaching proposes multiple justifiable reasons for divorce as long as the Christian does not remarry
- The overall umbrella covering these reasons is, it is for the kingdom of heaven

103

## Reasons given for justifiable divorce without remarriage

1. End an unscriptural marriage
2. Live as a Christian
3. Overcome spouse's financial irresponsibility
4. Escape spouse's abusing you or your children
5. Maintain physical and emotional health
6. High level of mutual hostility

104

## Supposed proof texts showing multiple reasons for divorce

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Mat 19:10 The disciples \*said to Him, "If the relationship of the man with his wife is like this, it is better not to marry."

105

## Supposed proof texts showing multiple reasons for divorce

Mat 19:11 But He said to them, "Not all men can accept this statement, but only those to whom it has been given."

Mat 19:12 "For there are eunuchs who were born that way from their mother's womb; and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men; and there are also eunuchs who made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who is able to accept this, let him accept it."

106

## Supposed proof texts showing multiple reasons for divorce

Luk 14:26 "If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple."

107

## Supposed proof texts showing multiple reasons for divorce

Luk 18:28 Peter said, "Behold, we have left our own homes and followed You."

Luk 18:29 And He said to them, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God,

Luk 18:30 who will not receive many times as much at this time and in the age to come, eternal life."

108

## Supposed proof texts showing multiple reasons for divorce

1Co 7:10 But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband

1Co 7:11 (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

109

## Supposed proof texts showing multiple reasons for divorce

1Co 7:12 But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her.

1Co 7:13 And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, she must not send her husband away.

110

## Supposed proof texts showing multiple reasons for divorce

1Co 7:14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy.

1Co 7:15 Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, but God has called us to peace.

111

## What the New Testament says

- While we would agree people must end unscriptural marriages by divorce, we do not agree with multiple causes for divorce from lawful (in God's sight) marriages
- Also, some may never choose to marry in order to devote themselves more fully to the service of God

112

## What the New Testament says

- The only Scriptural cause for divorcing from a lawful (in God's sight) marriage is for fornication
- When a Christian divorces a lawful spouse for some other reason than fornication, they are sinning
- They must either remain unmarried or be reconciled to their lawful spouse

113

## All unlawful marriages must be ended

Mar 6:17 For Herod himself had sent and had John arrested and bound in prison on account of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, because he had married her.

Mar 6:18 For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

114

## All unlawful marriages must be ended

1Co 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

115

## All unlawful marriages must be ended

1Co 6:10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

1Co 6:11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

116

## The only Scriptural cause for divorcing from a a lawful marriage is fornication

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Mat 5:32 but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for *the* reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

117

## A Christian sins when divorcing their lawful spouse for other reasons than fornication

1Co 7:10 But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband

1Co 7:11 (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

118

## Overcoming False Teachings About Marriage Divorce And Remarriage

1. The gospel applies to Christians only
2. Baptism washes away previous marriages
3. Desertion by unbelieving spouse justifies divorce and remarriage
4. Mental divorce
5. Divorce for the kingdom of heaven's sake

119

## Marriage Divorce and Remarriage

1. God intends marriage to last until death
2. God witnesses the marriage covenant and binds the two together for life
3. God hates divorce
4. Who does not have the right to remarry according to God's word?
5. Who has the right to remarry according to God's word?
6. Overcoming false teachings about marriage divorce and remarriage

120