 **The Gospel of Matthew**

“What God Has Joined Together”
(Part Two)
Matthew 19:7-12

And some of the Pharisees came to Him, testing Him, saying, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause at all?”

And He answered and said, “Have you not read, that He who created, from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,
and said, ‘FOR THIS CAUSE A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER, AND SHALL CLEAVE TO HIS WIFE; AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH’?
Consequently they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.”

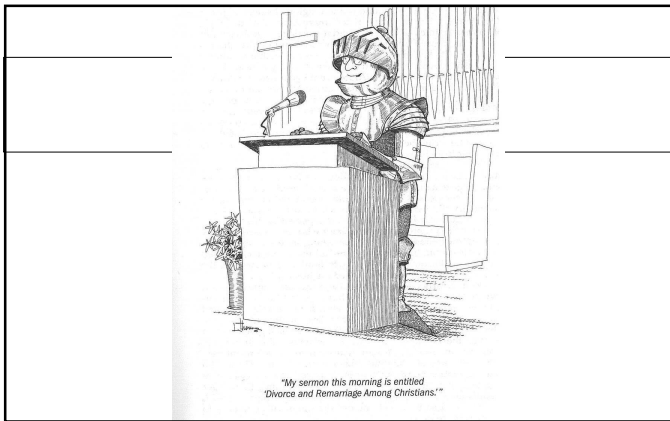
They said to Him, “Why then did Moses command to GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE AND DIVORCE HER?”


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.
And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.”

The disciples said to Him, “If the relationship of the man with his wife is like this, it is better not to marry.”

But He said to them, “Not all men can accept this statement, but only those to whom it has been given.
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.”

– Matthew 19:3-12
(NASB)



 **Marriage & Divorce**

Sanctity of Marriage:

1. Marriage is God’s Design
2. Marriage is God’s Doing
3. Marriage is to be Permanent



Marriage & Divorce

Deuteronomy 24:1-4

- does not command or explicitly sanction divorce but only regulates subsequent remarriage
- implicitly sanctions divorce for “some indecency” in the wife (*“nakedness of a thing”*)



Marriage & Divorce

What did Jesus Teach?

1. Divorce, though at times permissible, is against God’s original design for marriage and is always evidence of sin



Marriage & Divorce

What did Jesus Teach?

2. Sexual immorality is a permissible cause for divorce, but not a mandatory one
 - *sexual immorality ruptures the “one flesh” union of marriage*



Marriage & Divorce

What did Jesus Teach?

3. Remarriage is permissible after a divorce caused by sexual immorality – this remarriage is not considered adultery



Marriage & Divorce

What did Jesus Teach?

4. Remarriage after an unlawful divorce (“any cause”) is an act of adultery
 - *unlawful divorce does not dissolve the “one flesh” union of marriage*



Marriage & Divorce

What did Jesus Teach?

5. Singleness for the sake of the kingdom is a God-given, God-blessed condition