

# Matt 19: 1-8 Week 57

## Divorce: What Does God's Word Say?

Matt. 19:1 When Jesus had finished saying these things, (concerning forgiveness) he left Galilee and went into the region of Judea to the other side of the Jordan. 2 Large crowds followed him, and he healed them there. 3 Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?" 4 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' 5 and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? 6 So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

7 "Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?" 8 Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. 9 I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery."

1 Cor. 7:15 But if the unbelieving partner [actually] leaves, let him do so; in such [cases the remaining] brother or sister is not morally bound. But God has called us to peace. AMP

Why did marriages and families seem more stable in the past?

- Families had \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ convictions.

Today, we hear:

- "I am in the Kingdom, so I can live and do what makes me \_\_\_\_\_ regardless of God's Word or others' feelings."
- "If everything is going my way, I am happy", thus happiness is dictated by \_\_\_\_\_.

What determines happy for the Christian? \_\_\_\_\_

- But it also is a reflection of the \_\_\_\_\_ we make daily.
- Loving is a daily choice. Obedience is a daily choice. We must be willing to \_\_\_\_\_ to the will of God to be successful in making choices.

The Lord and His Foes

- Marriage was God's idea and \_\_\_\_\_.
- God intended marriage to be \_\_\_\_\_.

Then why do marriages fail?

- Failed marriages can, at times, be a condition reflecting man and his \_\_\_\_\_ with God. When Jesus is not Lord and in control of man's \_\_\_\_\_ then a man's heart is out of \_\_\_\_\_.

- The part of your heart that was meant to be given \_\_\_\_\_ in marriage you have taken back.
- We take something of great \_\_\_\_\_ and over the years we
  - \_\_\_\_\_ it...which leads to:
  - distractions....which leads to:
  - distance....which leads to:
  - \_\_\_\_\_....which leads to:
  - \_\_\_\_\_works....which, in time, leads to:
  - death

So what are the biblical grounds for divorce?

- Adultery and \_\_\_\_\_  
Only one biblical truth trumps this: repentance and \_\_\_\_\_ are always God's plan.

What about spousal abuse-- physical and emotional? Or child abuse? Pornography? Drugs/alcohol? Are these grounds for divorce? \_\_\_\_\_

What if a person is an unbeliever and he divorces and then gets saved afterwards? What is right here? If reconciliation is possible, \_\_\_\_\_.

What if the ex spouse is not a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor 6:14)

What if both have remarried after divorce? Can they now marry again? \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark 10:11-12

If the ex doesn't wish to reconcile, are you free? \_\_\_\_\_

If a person gets a divorce, but not for adultery or abandonment, can he remarry? If he initiated the divorce, \_\_\_\_\_ Matt 19:9

If you initiated a divorce, with no scriptural reason, can the other party remarry? \_\_\_\_\_, IF all reconciliation has failed.