Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage – Part 1

Adam Willingham · Matthew 19:3–12 · Series: **Marriage**

INTRODUCTION

- Beheading spouses is not common, but remarrying is very common. About one-third of all marriages are remarriages.
- We must be objective. And simply look at what does the text say and remove our emotions from it and simply go according to the word of God.

1 Is It Lawful to Divorce for Any Reason?

Matthew 19:3–6

- What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.
- Jesus' answer to that, in short, is no. It is not lawful to divorce for any reason at all.
- God's intention from the beginning was for there to be one man and one woman for life.
- What God established in the beginning is unchanging and universal.

2 Moses Permitted Divorce Because of Hardness of Heart

Matthew 19:7–8; Deuteronomy 24:1–4

- This passage was given by Moses to control the worst aspects of divorce.
- This passage was not written with the primary idea of giving permission to divorce.
- Moses permitted divorce because of the hardness of your hearts.
- But in the beginning, it was not that way.

3 Divorce Plus Remarriage Equals Adultery, With One Exception

Matthew 19:9; Mark 6:17–18; Ezra 10:44

- Divorce plus remarriage equals adultery, with one exception.
- Sexual immorality is the only justifiable cause, according to Jesus, for divorce and remarriage.
- An adulterous marriage will always be an adulterous marriage as long as it remains a marriage.
- The only way to repent in such a situation is to end the marriage. Thus ending the adultery.
- John had been saying to Herod, it is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.

4 The Innocent Party Has the Option

- If a spouse commits adultery, the innocent party has the option to either remain married or to divorce and remarry.
- Either decision would be acceptable to the Lord.
- The reason we can't stand in judgment of that is because the Lord doesn't.

5 All Cannot Accept This Saying

Matthew 19:10–12

- All cannot accept this saying, but only to those to whom it has been given.
- If you're in a situation where you are single, and maybe you have done that even by choice, to remain unmarried. That is a commendable thing.
- That's not to say that marriage is not a beautiful and wonderful thing. It sure is.

6 Everyone Who Divorces His Wife Makes Her Commit Adultery

Matthew 5:31–32

- Everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.
- He puts her in a position to commit adultery.
- Jesus condemns not just remarriage, he condemns divorce.
- A person who divorces for just any reason has already sinned.
- In Matthew 5.32, he is dealing with the one who was divorced. Whereas in Matthew 19, 9, he is dealing with the one who did the divorcing and remarried.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Once you marry them, you accept them with all their flaws for the rest of your life. We're talking decades. So make sure that you make the right decision.**

MY NOTES