Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage – Part 3

Adam Willingham · 1 Corinthians 7:10–16 · Series: **Marriage**

INTRODUCTION

- This is a chapter that many will go to find loopholes.
- Our attitude must be we don't care which way it is, we just want to know which way it is.

1 The Key Is Context

Matthew 19:9; Matthew 5:32

- Do not take a verse and lift it out of context. It will confuse you, especially in this chapter.
- In this chapter, Paul is answering marriage questions that the Corinthians wrote to him about.
- He might give applications that Jesus did not make, but he will not invent new principles. He will not create new exceptions to the rule.
- When he considers divorce, he is considering it from the standpoint of these people have not divorced scripturally, so neither one of them has the right to remarry.

2 Divorce Is Wrong: It Is Prohibited by God

1 Corinthians 7:10–16

- These terms do not refer to mere separation.
- No, these words refer to divorce. They were words for divorce in the first century.
- Divorce is wrong. It is prohibited. By God. That means God does not allow it.
- He does not give two sets of rules. He gives two applications of the same rule, one generally and one specifically.

3 Not Under Bondage: Freedom to Let Him Leave

1 Corinthians 7:15

- Bondage does not mean the marriage bond. It's a different word and a different context.
- Paul does not give anybody a right to remarry except to be reconciled to your original spouse.
- It's not freedom to remarry, it's freedom to let him leave.

4 To the Married: Remain Unmarried or Be Reconciled

1 Corinthians 7:10–11; Matthew 19:9; Matthew 5:32

- That the wife should not leave her husband. 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.
- Jesus in this passage is not just forbidding remarriage. He is condemning divorce.
- The divorced individual has only two options. Paul says to remain single, that is unmarried, or to be reconciled.

- Paul is not dealing with somebody that had been divorced and remarried. He is dealing with somebody who had divorced and was single.

5 Divorce Permitted as Long as Remarriage Doesn't Occur?

Matthew 5:32

- Is Paul saying that divorce is permitted as long as remarriage doesn't occur?
- Paul's purpose in this passage is damage control.
- No, it's not okay. It is a sin. He just knows that it is a reality that must be dealt with.
- We cannot pit Paul against Jesus.

6 Not Merely Staying Together: Love and Respect

Ephesians 5:25–26; Ephesians 5:33

- Not only do we need to worry about staying with our spouse, but we need to be the kind of husband and wife that God wants us to be.
- Husbands love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave himself up for her.
- Husbands are to love their wives, and wives are to respect their husbands.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Won't you come today, repenting of your sins, calling on the name of the Lord and being baptized to wash away your sins and rising to walk in newness of life.**

MY NOTES