

Discourse on Divorce: Part 2

The biblical definitions of divorce

● A legal definition – Matt 5:31,32

1. In Jesus's day, Jewish law prohibited women to legally divorce, only men could (This is stated in the T_____, a Jewish document explaining Jewish practices.)
2. In contexts where divorce is put in legal terms, it is defined as a **legal** act recognized by society that d_____ the marriage between two living people.

● A non-legal definition – Mark 10:12

1. In this context, since a woman could not l_____ divorce her husband, Jesus must mean something other than legal divorce.
2. The Greek word literally means to r_____ from and used in the following ways:
 - a. Matt 27:26 – Pilate **released** Barabbas **from** prison
 - b. Mark 8:3 – Jesus did not want to **send** the crowd **away** hungry
 - c. Matt 5:31,32 - In the legal sense of divorce.
3. Divorce occurs in p_____ long before it is legally declared.
4. A definition for Mark 10:12 – b_____ which has the effect of making the marriage relation either impractical or impossible What behaviors might have this effect?
 - a. Unfaithfulness – marriage is a o_____ flesh relationship not a multiple flesh relationship (Gen 2:24)
 - b. P_____ abuse
 - c. V_____ abuse
 - d. D_____
 - e. Permanently e_____ intimacy – 1 Cor 7:4

Paul's Address to the Christian Society (1 Cor 7:12-16)

● *I say, not the Lord* – Paul is not merely giving his o_____

1. Jesus dealt with J_____ marriages where Paul dealt with m_____ marriages (marriage between a believer and an unbeliever)

- a. Paul is saying that he is teaching something Jesus did not teach in His e_____ ministry (v. 12)
 - b. Paul believed that he was writing under the inspiration of the S_____ (v. 40)
2. Two situations
- a. The unbeliever wants to remain in the marriage (12-14)
 - 1) The believer m_____ remain in the marriage
 - 2) The believer's faith s_____ the marriage, the unbelieving spouse, and the children
 - a) This does not mean that the believer's faith s_____ the family, otherwise verse 16 would not make sense.
 - b) This means that faith sets it a_____ from marriages and families from the unbelieving world.
 - b. The unbeliever wants to leave the marriage (15)
 - 1) The believer m_____ let the unbeliever leave.
 - 2) The reason is to keep the p_____

Case Studies for remarriage after divorce

- Situation #1 - The unbeliever wants out of the marriage.
 1. The believer is not under b_____ (1 Cor 7:15; See this word used in Rom 7:2)
 2. This means that the marriage l_____ no longer applies and so remarriage is okay (as long as it is within the boundaries God has set)
- Situation #2 – two believers get divorced just because they don't love each other anymore.
 1. God still views them as m_____.
 2. Remarriage would be committing a _____ in God's eyes.
 3. If one remarries, it does free the other to remarry as long as it is in the boundaries God as set.
- Situation #3 – a person got divorced while an unbeliever, remains single, and later becomes a believer.
 1. 2 Cor 5:17; Rom 6:6; 1 Pet 3:3 – when a person trusts Christ, they are a n_____ person in God's eyes.
 2. Therefore, since the new person did not get divorced (the old person did), remarriage is _____.

● Situation #4 – a believer wrongly divorces and remarries

1. Did they know it was wrong?

a. If the answer is no

1) They need to be shown God's word

2) They need to accept God's word, adopt it as their philosophy.

b. If the answer is yes

1) They need to acknowledge their wrong and repent.

2) They need to advise others not to do the same thing.