

Jesus' Teaching on Divorce & Remarriage (Pt. 2)

Matthew 5:31-32

- I. The Corruption of the OT Teaching on Divorce & Remarriage (31)
 - A. What the Scribes Taught (31)
 - B. What the OT Taught (Dt. 24:1-4)

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II. Jesus' Exposition of the OT Teaching on Divorce & Remarriage (32)

A. The Divine Design of Biblical Marriage (Mt. 19:4-6)

1. God created the institution of marriage (4-5; cf. Gen. 1:27; 2:24).
2. God determined the priority of marriage (5a)
3. God determined the boundaries of marriage (4, 5b-6a).
 - a. Male & Female (4)
 - b. One Man & One Woman (5b-6a)

Biblical Arguments against Polygamy

1. Before the fall, God created marriage for two people (Gen. 2:24).
2. Jesus explicitly reaffirms the creation model of two (Mt. 19:5-6).
3. The OT records the pagan start of polygamy and the conflict it produces (Gen. 4:19; e.g., Gen. 16-30)
4. The Mosaic Law regulated it to minimize its harm but never condoned it (Ex. 21:10; Dt. 17:17; 21:15-17).
5. The NT elder—an example of Christian maturity—must be “a one-woman man” (1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:6).
6. Marriage pictures the relationship of Christ and His one bride, the church (Eph. 5:31-32).

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1. God created the institution of marriage (4-5; cf. Gen. 1:27; 2:24).
2. God determined the priority of marriage (5a)
3. God determined the boundaries of marriage (4, 5b-6a).
4. God established the primary purpose of marriage (5b-6a; cf. Gen. 2:18; Pr. 2:17; Mal. 2:14).
5. God ordained the lifelong permanence of marriage (6b).
 - a. By making marriage a covenant (Pr. 2:17; Mal. 2:14)
 - b. By His joining a man & woman in marriage (6b)

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II. Jesus' Exposition of the OT Teaching on Divorce & Remarriage (32)

A. The Divine Design of Biblical Marriage (Mt. 19:4-6)

B. The Deadly Sin of Unbiblical Divorce & Remarriage (32)

1. A wife, whose husband divorces her without biblical grounds, commits adultery if she remarries (32a).
2. The new husband of a wife divorced without biblical grounds commits adultery in marrying her (32b).
3. A husband who divorces his wife without biblical grounds commits adultery if he remarries (19:9).

Why Is Divorce Sin? (with two exceptions)

1. It violates God's design for marriage (Mt. 19:4-6).
2. It violates our promises in the marriage covenant (Pr. 2:17; Mal. 2:14).
3. It violates God's character (Dt. 7:9).
4. It violates God's command (Mt. 19:6).

Applying Jesus' Teaching...

1. Embrace God's design for a biblical marriage.
2. Commit to your spouse for life.
3. If you're unbiblically divorced or married to someone who is...
 - a. Seek God's forgiveness.
 - b. Seek your former spouse's forgiveness.
 - c. Seek reconciliation, if neither has remarried and both are believers.
 - d. If you remarried, believe the Lord's promise of forgiveness, love your current spouse with all your heart, and be devoted to your current marriage for life.