



UPSIDE —DOWN— KINGDOM



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Ezra 9 (excerpts)

“After these things had been done, the leaders came to me and said, “The people of Israel... have not kept themselves separate from the neighboring peoples with their detestable practices...”



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Ezra 9 (excerpts)

“They have taken some of their daughters as wives for themselves and their sons, and have mingled the holy race with the peoples around them. And the leaders and officials have led the way in this unfaithfulness.”



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Ezra 9 (excerpts)

When I heard this, I tore my tunic and cloak, pulled hair from my head and beard and sat down appalled. Then everyone who trembled at the words of God gathered around me because of this unfaithfulness of the exiles...



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Ezra 9 (excerpts)

Then Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, “You have been unfaithful; you have married foreign women, adding to Israel’s guilt. Now honor the Lord, the God of your ancestors, and do his will.



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Ezra 9 (excerpts)

**“Separate yourselves from the peoples around you and from your foreign wives.”
The whole assembly responded with a loud voice: “You are right! We must do as you say.”**



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Matthew 5:31-32



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Matthew 5:31-32

Million Dollar Question:
“What constitutes marital unfaithfulness?”



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MARITAL UNFAITHFULNESS INCLUDES:

1 – Sexual Sinfulness



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MARITAL UNFAITHFULNESS INCLUDES:

1 – Sexual Sinfulness

(Sexual abuse, addiction to pornography, prostitution, “open marriages,” etc.)



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1 Corinthians 6:18-20

“Flee from sexual immorality (same word). All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?



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1 Corinthians 6:18-20

**“You are not your own;
you were bought at a price.
Therefore, honor God with your body.”**



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1 Corinthians 7:1-5



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1 Corinthians 7:12-15



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MARITAL UNFAITHFULNESS INCLUDES:

- 1 – Sexual Sinfulness
- 2 – Abandonment



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MARITAL UNFAITHFULNESS INCLUDES:

1 – Sexual Sinfulness

2 - Abandonment

(leaving, neglecting marital role, physical abuse, emotional abuse, spiritual abuse, etc.)



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Malachi 2:16
“I hate divorce,” says
the LORD God of Israel...



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Malachi 2:16

“I hate divorce,” says
the LORD God of Israel...

**“AND I hate a man’s covering himself with
violence as well as his garment...”**



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Romans 7:2-3

“...by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. So then, if she marries another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress...



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Romans 7:2-3

“... But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress, even though she marries another man.”



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MARITAL UNFAITHFULNESS INCLUDES:

- 1 – Sexual Sinfulness
- 2 – Abandonment
- 3 – Death



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Matthew 18



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MARITAL UNFAITHFULNESS INCLUDES:

- 1 – Sexual Sinfulness
 - 2 – Abandonment
 - 3 – Death
- (physical AND spiritual)*



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WHEN A DIVORCE IS NOT SANCTIONED BY SCRIPTURE



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WHEN A DIVORCE IS NOT SANCTIONED BY SCRIPTURE

“To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband...



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WHEN A DIVORCE IS NOT SANCTIONED BY SCRIPTURE

“... But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband...”



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WHEN A DIVORCE IS NOT SANCTIONED BY SCRIPTURE

**RECONCILIATION
or REMAIN UNMARRIED**



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Isaiah 53:4-5

“Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him...”



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Isaiah 53:4-5

“AND BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED.”



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