

Divorce, Taking Another Look - Sunday AM 03/11/18

Introduction:

Earlier we looked at Marriage and pointed out it is a Divine Relationship involving God and man, it is a relationship between a man and a woman, it is a relationship where God binds them together, it is a relationship intended to last until one person dies. However, mankind quickly deviated from God's law by taking on more than one wife, and some divorced the wife they had so as to marry another person. The same thing goes on today. People get married and decide they are not happy, not compatible, and decide to leave that marriage. They then decide to marry someone else. This brings about the question of what the Scriptures say about those divorces and the subsequent marriage.

I) The Jesus Teaching on Divorce and Remarriage

A) The Question in *Matthew 19.3*

1. Goes back to the Law of Moses and *Deuteronomy 24.1*.
2. Notice a divorce involved a writing of divorcement and a sending away.
3. I don't know what the Roman law was on this matter but there was an ending of the marriage where people knew they were divorced.
 - a. Some argue that since there was no prescribed procedure then we can decide how or when we are really divorced as opposed to ceremonially divorced (my words not their's.)
 - b. The same thing can be said about marriage. There is not a "prescribe marriage ceremony or procedure in the Scriptures. Can we simply

pronounce we are married? How about obeying the Laws of the government? *Romans 13.1*

B) Jesus' Teaching on Divorce and Remarriage

1. *Mark 10.2-12; Luke 16.18; Matthew 19.9*
 - a. There is the put away person
 - b. Those put away for some other reason than fornication
 - c. Those who put away their spouse for some other reason than fornication
 - d. Those who marry an ineligible person, the third person
2. Notice we have no problem understanding what the word divorce means without the exception.
 - a. It means to separate, to depart, to send the other person away, in short to end the marriage.
 - b. There is the intention of ending the marriage and the writing of divorcement (the legal process).
3. The question asked of Jesus is can a man divorce his wife for any reason. The question is not what constitutes a divorce. They understood what was meant by divorce.
 - a. What is meant in *Matthew 19.9a*? Giving a writing of divorce and sending her out of the house.
 - b. *Matthew 5.31-32* what is meant by divorce?
 - c. *Mark 12.10-12* there is the writing of divorce and ending the relationship.

- d. *Luke 16.18* the same thing is meant by the word divorce.
- 4. We don't have any problem of defining divorce until we get to the exception?
- 5. Why is it adultery without the exception? They are still bound by God's law to each other.
 - a. "marry another" is used in *Mark 12.11-12; Luke 16.18, Matthew 19.9.*
 - b. Different wording in *Matthew 5.31-32* but the same idea is expressed.

C) Understanding *Apoluo*, charts 19, 20 , 21

- 1. The word "*apoluo*" is translated differently in other passages.
- 2. Examples
 - a. *Matthew 14.23* "He had sent the multitude away"
 - b. *Acts 13.3* "they sent them away"
- 3. The context determines the use of the word and how it is being used.

D) Fornication and its relationship to the divorce

- 1. When does the fornication occur? Before the marriage, in the marriage, or after the person was sent away?
- 2. Before the marriage - they sinned against God but they had not broken the marriage covenant, it did not exist at that time.

3. After the marriage ended - the person left and there was separation. That would describe *Mark 12.11-12; Luke 16.18; Matthew 19.9a*.
4. The fornication was the cause for the divorce, *Matthew 19.9b*. The cause cannot be after the effect. Charts 29-34; 35-37.
5. But the argument is that they were not really divorced or put away. Jesus said they were in those passages.

Conclusion: