## Justification of Marriage

Marriages come and go sadly in our world today. Something that was viewed as shameful when a marriage ended in divorce is now the norm. I hear classmates of mine saying how they are at least their second marriage or that they are divorced once. I cannot fathom how this could be just accepted and believe this is common. The subject of MDR comes up and sadly some want to justify their marriage or someone else's marriage that may be remarkably close to them.

First, we know the Bible reveals the reason of divorce (**Mark 10:1-12**). Divorce is not to be used for any reason. Jesus is specific in giving us understanding on what the cause for divorce can be. It is for the reason of fornication by a spouse with another. One who marries this person commits adultery. One that is on the other side of this situation can remarry. Marriage is supposed to be a bond that lasts forever. Let us consider some things as reasons why people want to justify sinful marriages…

**What about spouses being in a troubled relationship?**

Someone that is in an abusive relationship or something of a similar nature. These are sad situations to see one in. As much as we would like to say that one can be remarried because of this situation it is still not a justifiable reason. One that is in a situation like this is not remembering how a relationship is to be (**Ephesians 5:25-29**). It is not just one side to this, either one can be guilty of this. This is not a reason to remarry. It is not grounds for divorce either. Both would be a situation of being in an unscriptural marriage and divorce if this was the reason.

**What About the Government Saying it is, Okay?**

The world is progressing in many ways. Sadly, in the wrong direction. But many will put their trust in government. If they say it is okay, then it must be okay. The views of marriage have drastically changed in our country, and it does not mean that they are right! What about when the council said Jesus could not be preached (**Acts 4:16-18**)? They responded (**Acts 5:29**) with we need to put God first. We have a responsibility to laws of the land but when it violates God's will we have a responsibility to God first! But again, because the government says it is okay is not a justifiable reason.

**What About when it is personal?**

Some will be staunch on this subject of MDR. They will completely agree with the Bible. But, when someone, whether it is a son or daughter, brother or sister, and father or mother, their views completely change. Because it is something that is very personal. That is when people will want to justify marriages even more. Jesus speaks of the love for God needing to be first (**Matthew 10:37-39**). We cannot put others especially family over God. We have a need to remember Him and His kingdom first (**Matthew 6:33**). It is sad to see close loved ones suffer but it does not mean we can make remarrying and divorce justifiable because it is close to home. It is an opportunity and takes strength and courage to stand for this even more in the wake of family.

The Bible states why we can be divorced and remarried (**Matthew 19:1-10**). Marriage is a bind between a man and a woman. We cannot justify martial situations. God will not accept or approve. We need to continue to keep our vows. (**I Corinthians 7:10-16**) Daniel Sanders