

I. Christ's Controversy on Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage

Matthew 19:1-12

- (1) And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these sayings, he departed from Galilee, and came into the coasts of Judaea beyond Jordan;
- (2) And great multitudes followed him; and he healed them there.
- (3) The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?
- (4) And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,
- (5) And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?
- (6) Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.
- (7) They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?
- (8) He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.
- (9) And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.
- (10) His disciples say unto him, If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry.
- (11) But he said unto them, All men cannot receive this saying, save they to whom it is given.
- (12) For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb: and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it.

Mark 10:1-12

- (1) And he arose from thence, and cometh into the coasts of Judaea by the farther side of Jordan: and the people resort unto him again; and, as he was wont, he taught them again.
- (2) And the Pharisees came to him, and asked him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife? tempting him.
- (3) And he answered and said unto them, What did Moses command you?
- (4) And they said, Moses suffered to write a bill of divorcement, and to put her away.
- (5) And Jesus answered and said unto them, For the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept.
- (6) But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female.
- (7) For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife;
- (8) And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh.
- (9) What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.
- (10) And in the house his disciples asked him again of the same matter.
- (11) And he saith unto them, Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her.
- (12) And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery.

II. Christ's Earlier Teaching on Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage

Matthew 5:31-32

(31) It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement:

(32) But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

Luke 16:18

(18) Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery.

III. Old Testament Teaching on Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage

Genesis 2:24

(24) Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

Deuteronomy 24:1-4

(1) When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house.

(2) And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's wife.

(3) And if the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife;

(4) Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the LORD: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

Malachi 2:10-16

(10) Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

(11) Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god.

(12) The LORD will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar, out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the LORD of hosts.

(13) And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, inso-much that he regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth it with good will at your hand.

(14) Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.

(15) And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

(16) For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.

IV. Apostolic Teaching on Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage

Romans 7:2-3

(2) For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband.

(3) So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.

I Corinthians 7:10-11, 39

(10) And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband:

(11) But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.

(39) The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord.

Ephesians 5:22-33

(22) Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

(23) For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

(24) Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

(25) Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

(26) That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

(27) That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

(28) So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

(29) For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

(30) For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

(31) For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

(32) This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

(33) Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.