

## Chapter 25 – Divorce and Remarriage – #5

*'The bottom line when we talk about (divorce) is to remember the first person comment from God himself: "I hate divorce." And that's the bottom line. God hates it because it is a violation of the one flesh for life union by which righteousness is passed from one generation to another, and also by which the relationship between Christ and the Church is demonstrated and symbolized in the world... When a marriage is shattered there is loss on all fronts, Not only does that union breakup, the question of passing righteousness to the next generation falls under terrible duress. Then, you have lack of clarity about the Church and its relationship to Jesus Christ. It's all tied together.'* – John MacArthur – <http://www.christianpost.com/news/john-macarthur-on-divorce-we-cant-edit-god-75083/>

### **Biblical grounds for divorce** – Matthew 19:3-12

(1<sup>st</sup>) **Sexual Immorality** – Matthew 19:9... 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7

(2) **Desertion** – 1 Corinthians 7:10-16

*'If the unbeliever willfully departs, let separation take its course, let it become an accomplished fact; the believer is not under any obligation to pursue the deserting spouse and is freed from all marital debts and duties. Here is decisiveness... the deserted believer is not under obligation to discharge marital functions and debts to the deserting spouse is quite obvious; it cannot mean anything less. But the question is whether it also implies more, namely the dissolution of the marriage bond and liberty to marry another.'* – John Murray, *Divorce* – p.69

**What about remarriage?** – 1 Corinthians 7:27-28, 39... 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

(3<sup>rd</sup>) **There are No Biblical Grounds** – Mark 10:2-12... Luke 16:18...

*'In sum, what I am pleading for here is that Jesus' standards for marriage were higher than the rabbinic schools. He is radical, not accommodating. The world we live in needs to see a church that is so satisfied in Christ that its marriages are not abandoned for something as amorphous (shapeless—i.e. undefined) as "emotional neglect." The deepest meaning of marriage is to display the covenant-keeping faithfulness of Christ and his church (Ephesians 5:25). And Christ will never divorce his wife and take another.'* – John Piper, Article entitled, *Tragically Widening the Grounds of Legitimate Divorce*

**Question #1** – Matthew 5: 31,32: Whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery. What about divorced Christian men and women of today? How does this apply to present times?

Does the state of a persons soul, being in Christ or outside of Christ, change the accountability of the marriage and/or divorce? Example: If a man or woman is married and then is divorced (not due to adultery) and later becomes a follower of Christ would that person commit adultery if they were to marry another Christian?

ANSWER:

**Question #2** – Would emotional abuse in a marriage of two believers be grounds for biblical divorce?

ANSWER:

**Question #3** – If an unbeliever divorces a believer, but later wants to reconcile, should the believer marry the unbeliever again? – **1 Cor 7:39** > *'marry only in the Lord'*

ANSWER: