

What Did Jesus Say About Divorce?

"For the Lord God of Israel says that He hates divorce, for it covers one's garment with violence," says the Lord of hosts. Therefore take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously." Malachi 2:16 (*P* 1106)





What Did Jesus Say About Divorce? Matthew 19 (p 1134)

1st QUESTION FROM THE PHARISEES

"Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?" <mark>Matthew 19:3 (p 1134)</mark>

Not an honest question – they were "testing Him"

NOTICE JESUS WAS FINISHED WITH HIS ANSWER; HE ANSWERED THE QUESTION! "NO!"

Jesus' answer was clear <mark>(19:4-6)</mark>

- He appealed to scripture
- ✓ He appealed to authority
- ✓ He appealed to God

2nd QUESTION FROM THE PHARISEES

"Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?" (Matthew 19:7)

- This was the TEST! Trying to TRAP Jesus.
- Jesus' answer was clear (Matthew 19:8-9)
- Allowance under Law of Moses because of their hearts
- He again appeals to authority
- Jesus restates the EXCEPTION

NOTICE THE DISCIPLES UNDERSTOOD CLEARLY WHAT JESUS

HAD JUST SAID! (V10)

CAN YOU GET A DIVORCE FOR ANY REASON?

- NO -

- No matter what the laws of the land allow!
- No matter the mood of society!
- No matter what the preacher says!

The only exception for DIVORCE is sexual immorality! NO OTHER REASON IS ACCEPTABLE IN THE EYES OF GOD!



The REACTION of the disciples verse 10 The ANSWER of Jesus verses 11-12 Not everyone will accept the will of God Some are born without natural affections to women Some are made that way by men SOME ARE WILLING TO FOREGO THE RELATIONSHIP WITH A WOMAN "FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN'S SAKE"! He who is able to accept it, let him accept it!



It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife

Mark 6:18 (p 1158)

How does *Matthew 19* apply?
He had no lawful right to Herodias!
He was in an immoral union/relationship!
He needed to become a EUNUCH for the Lord!
But wait – is that fair; can that be too much to ask; what if they love one another; how can God not expect them to find happiness with one another?



NOTICE THE CONTEXT OF MATTHEW 19 (pp 1134-1135)

- The question about divorce
- The answers by Jesus
- The reaction of the disciples
- THE LITTLE CHILDREN

vv 3, 7 vv 4-6; 8-9 vv 10-12 vv 13-15

It will take the heart of a child to accept this teaching

Matthew 18:1-5 *(p 1133)*



THE RICH YOUNG RULER Matthew 19 (p 1134)

- He asks the right question
- He is told what to do
- He goes away sorrowful WHY DID HE GO AWAY? WHY DID HE LEAVE JESUS?



HE IS NOT WILLING TO GIVE UP SOMETHING VERY PRECIOUS TO HIM TO SERVE THE LORD!



MARRIAGE IS HONORABLE AMONG ALL, AND THE BED UNDEFILED; BUT FORNICATORS AND ADULTERERS GOD WILL JUDGE. HEBREWS 13:4 (P 1384)



BUT JESUS LOOKED AT THEM AND SAID TO THEM, "WITH MEN THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE." MATTHEW 19:26 (P 1135)

BURIED WITH HIM IN DEATH RAISED TO WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE