

**MARRIAGE,
DIVORCE
&
REMARRIAGE**

A BIBLICAL STUDY

MARRIAGE

Ephesians 5:31-32 (NIV)

³¹ “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”^[a] ³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

1:COVENANT NOT CONTRACT

2:BETWEEN MAN AND WOMAN

3:CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH

DIVORCE

(Old Testament)

- 1) the grounds for divorce (Deut 24:1a)
- 2) the process of divorce (Deut 24:1b)
- 3) the result of divorce (Deut 24:2-4)

‘INDECENT’

Shammai - interpreted it as unchastity

Hillel -anything displeasing to her husband.

SAMPLE

"On the _____ day of the week, the _____ day of the month _____, in the year _____ from the creation of the world, in the city of _____, I, _____, the son of _____, do willingly consent, being under no restraint, to release, to set free, and to put aside thee, my wife, _____, daughter of _____, who has been my wife from before. Thus I do set free, release thee, and put thee aside, in order that thou may have permission and the authority over thyself and to go and marry any man that thou may desire. No person may hinder thee from this day onward, and thou art permitted to every man. This shall be for thee from me a bill of dismissal, a letter of release, and a document of freedom, in accordance with the laws of Moses and Israel.

_____ the son of _____, witness.

_____ the son of _____, witness."

MALACHI 2:16

*'I HATE DIVORCE', SAYS THE LORD GOD OF
ISRAEL*

THE TEACHING OF JESUS

- Mark 10:1-12
- Matthew 19:1-12.

THE EXCEPTION CLAUSE

...whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity [***porneia***], and marries another, commits adultery [***moiceia***] “
(Matt 19:9).

• ***New Testament Use of Porneia.***

The Teaching of Paul

1 Corinthians 7:10-16

- Divorce of Two Believers.
- Divorce of a Believer Married to an Unbeliever Who Does Not Want a Divorce.
- Divorce of a Believer Married to an Unbeliever Who Wants a Divorce.

REMARRIAGE

"not bound" (*ou dedoulotai*)

*presupposes the dissolution of
the marriage bond
and consequently the freedom of
the deserted spouse to remarry.*

PRACTICAL CONCLUSIONS

- At conversion, people are accepted in their present marital status.
- Those who leave the fellowship and are later restored to it are also accepted in their present (possibly altered) marital status.

- Disciples should certainly not divorce one another for other causes, but if they do, they must remain unmarried or be reconciled (1 Corinthians 7:10-11).
- If a non-Christian mate leaves a disciple, then the disciple is not bound and can divorce the one who departs.
- Any Christian who leaves God is considered an “unbeliever” in light of 1 Corinthians 7:12-15. If the unbelieving spouse deserts the disciple and is no longer willing to live with them, the faithful spouse can then divorce them.