

Divorce & Remarriage

In our society it is not uncommon to find someone who has been married and divorced more than once--before they are 25! Various statistics show that about half or more of all people who marry get divorced. This is surprising for a nation that is supposed to be a "Christian nation." Those who are followers of Christ are supposed to honor marriage, taking the vow "until death" (cf. Rom. 7:1-3).

Jesus addressed the issue of divorce and remarriage, but many people are not aware of what He said; notice it:

"And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery" (Matt. 19:9).

"Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery" (Mk. 10:11-12).

Thus, we see that the only cause Christ gives for divorce and remarriage is sexual immorality. If a couple divorce because they just don't get along, they have no right to marry again. Notice that the adulterer is not given any right to marry again. Only the spouse who is innocent may remarry. Also, someone who marries one who is unlawfully divorced, is an adulterer too.

It is sad, but many people do not know about this and end up living in adultery. The men who are supposed to be teaching people about Christ's law on divorce and remarriage are not doing it. Sometimes it is because they are ignorant of it. At other times, maybe most of the time, it is because they do not want to turn people off, and away, by telling them the truth. Either way, the result is lost souls.

Ask your preacher what the Bible says about divorce and remarriage. If he does not say what the Lord said, then ask him why.

Steven F. Deaton