

Divorce and Remarriage

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I. Introduction.

- A. God's plan has always been one man for one woman forever. (Malachi 2:14-16)
- B. Divorce is a fact that must be faced and dealt with.
- C. There are four positions on divorce and remarriage.

II. Divorce is always wrong so remarriage is out of the question. (Luke 16:18)

- A. We can withdraw fellowship with the offender, but Jesus did not do this. (John 4)
- B. The marriage can be broken up, but what if there are children born?
- C. You can ignore it and feel guilty yourself.

III. Divorce is sometimes right but remarriage is not. (Matthew 5:31; 19:3-10; 1 Corinthians 7:10-17)

- A. One could be condemning an innocent party to a life of celibacy because of someone else's sin.
- B. One could be refusing forgiveness and a new start to the guilty party. This negates God's forgiving power. (1 John 1:7-9)
- C. Consequences may still come, but Christians do not have the right to put punishment on those guilty. (Romans 8:1)

IV. Divorce is right and remarriage is right under certain circumstances. (Matthew 5:31; 19:3-10; 1 Corinthians 7:10-17)

- A. They believe that when there has been infidelity, there is no reason to prevent remarriage.
- B. The New Testament and the Old Testament are the same on this teaching. (Malachi 3:6; James 1:17)
- C. God made provision for divorce. (Deuteronomy 24:1-4; Ezra 10:1-16)
- D. Remarriage is important from God's point of view.
 - 1. The first marriage may not have been in the Lord.
- E. Every person should be fully persuaded in their own mind. (Romans 14:5, 12)
- F. We should not judge others of a different opinion. (Matthew 7:1-5; Romans 14:4, 10)
- G. The blood of Jesus is sufficient to forgive any sin. (John 8:1-11; Galatians 5:22-23)

V. Divorce and remarriage have nothing to do with the Christian life, so anything goes.

Application questions:

1. Explain the different positions on divorce and remarriage.

2. What is your position on divorce and remarriage? Defend your answer.

3. How can you disagree with other Christians having a different view and maintain unity? Are there some viewpoints that cannot be considered Christian? Explain.
