

Marriage Belongs to God

Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage

Institution

Genesis 1-2
Matthew 19

Genesis 1:27

So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

Genesis 2:24-25

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Romans 7:2

A married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage.

Bible Definition of Marriage:

An adult male and an adult female
are joined together permanently
without any shame in nudity.

Matthew 19:3

And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?”

Matthew 19:4

He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,

Matthew 19:5

and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?

Matthew 19:6

So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

In Defense of Marriage

Hebrews 13

The Bible defines sexual sins.

Hebrews 13:4

Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

Therefore, God allows us to fulfill our sexual desire in precisely one way: the marriage bed.

All other fulfillment of sexual desire is either fornication (unmarried) or adultery (married).

The Bible provides detailed definitions.

1 Corinthians 6:15

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never!

1 Corinthians 6:16

Or do you not know that he who is *joined to* a prostitute becomes *one body* with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh ..."

1 Corinthians 6:19

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? *You are not your own,*

1 Corinthians 6:20

for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

1 Corinthians 7:3

The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband.

1 Corinthians 7:4

For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

Bible Definition of Fornication:

1. A person is joined to another to whom he/she does not belong.
2. A person who belongs to another refuses to be joined to him/her.

Divorce:
Hardness of Heart

Matthew 5, 19

Matthew 19:6

“... What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

Matthew 19:7

They said to him, “Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?”

Matthew 19:8

He said to them, “**Because of your hardness of heart** Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, **but from the beginning it was not so.**”

Matthew 19:9

And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery.”

Matthew 5:31

“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’”

Matthew 5:32

But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, *makes her commit adultery*, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.”

Self-Denial

1 Corinthians 7

Matthew 19; Luke 9

The only divorced person who can marry again is the person who divorced their spouse because their spouse committed fornication.

1 Corinthians 7:10

To the married I give this charge (not I, but the Lord): the wife should not separate from her husband

1 Corinthians 7:11

(but if she does, she should *remain unmarried* or else *be reconciled* to her husband), and the husband should not divorce his wife.

Matthew 19:10

The disciples said to him, “If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry.”

Matthew 19:11

But he said to them, “Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given.

Matthew 19:12

For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men,

Matthew 19:12

and there are eunuchs who *have made themselves eunuchs* for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it.”

Luke 9:23

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

Luke 9:24

For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

Luke 9:25

For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?

Luke 9:26

For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”

Galatians 1:10

Am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.