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## Divorce and Remarriage

Today's topic is a topic that is actually asked about very frequently, and for good reason. In order to understand the biblical principles of divorce and remarriage, one has to have read the whole book from the beginning to the end, and not just half of the book, from the middle to the end.

As in so many cases... many pastors, priests, bishops, and popish leaders of today, are ill-equipped to answer questions about divorce and remarriage because they themselves come out of seminary school almost completely illiterate when it comes to understanding the Torah, and the first half of the book, and because they don't understand the first half of the book, they program their congregations not to read the first half of the book either.

This particular topic is a perfect example of what happens when you only read the last half of the book and don't bother reading the first half of it. The reason why today's modern-day version of Christianity only chooses to read half of their Bibles is a long drawn out story that we won't get into here today, but I will say that this is exactly why there is so much confusion about divorce and remarriage within the Christian community today.

Today's modern-day professing Christian loves to cherry pick one or two Scriptures out of the Bible, and then parade around pretending to know what the Bible says about any given topic. This my friends is a shame for today's modern-day professing Christian. It is written that God's people are destroyed for lack of knowledge because they have rejected knowledge, and I would submit to you my friends that this is true more so today than it has ever been.

As we venture into today's topic we're going to learn several different things. First of all, we'll learn how to properly study our Bibles, and we'll also going to learn how not... to study our Bibles. Second of all, we're going to learn how dangerous it is to cherry pick a couple of Scriptures out of the Bible, and then parade around telling people that we know what the Bible says.

Thirdly, by the time were done here today, we're going to have a well-rounded good explanation for what the Bible says about divorce and remarriage. But I do want to warn you, that there is no short answer concerning the topic of divorce and remarriage. Only those who truly seek the truth and take the time to pray for our Father's discernment, and truly put the time into studying this topic will truly understand this topic. And I think that you'll find in the end... that you can understand what literally thousands of man-made denominational charters to this

day... do not understand.

And so, without further introduction, I'd like to jump right into not only what the Bible says about divorce and remarriage... but also what the Bible does not say about divorce and remarriage, because as we always say about every chapter, and every verse found within our Scripture... it's always important to know what the Bible says... but it is always just as equally important to know and understand what it does not say. Let's begin with some red-letter words that come directly from the very mouth, the very tongue, and the very breath of our Messiah found in the book of Mark chapter 10 verses one through 12:

**Mar 10:1** *And he left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to him again. And again, as was his custom, he taught them.*

**Mar 10:2** *And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"*

**Mar 10:3** *He answered them, "What did Moses command you?"*

**Mar 10:4** *They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away."*

**Mar 10:5** *And Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment.*

**Mar 10:6** *But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.'*

**Mar 10:7** *"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife,*

**Mar 10:8** *and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh.*

**Mar 10:9** *What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."*

**Mar 10:10** *And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.*

**Mar 10:11** *And he said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her,*

**Mar 10:12** *and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."*

Now, as we read through this Scripture it can be very easy to misunderstand what is going on here. So, I want us to slow down just a little bit and really study the importance of what the Scripture is letting us know.

First of all, I want us to understand that the Pharisees were constantly questioning Yeshua in order to try and trick him, so that they could try him for blasphemy and to discredit him and everything that he came to preach. Every question that they asked, was a trick question, but our Messiah was well aware of these things. Let's turn to the book of Matthew chapter 22 versus 15 through 21:

**Mat 22:15** Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words.

**Mat 22:16** And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances.

**Mat 22:17** Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"

**Mat 22:18** But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites?"

**Mat 22:19** Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius.

**Mat 22:20** And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?"

**Mat 22:21** They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

And so, once again, just as we see here in verse 15, they plotted how to entangle him and his words. And in verse 18, Yeshua lets them know that he was wise to their trickery, and he says to them and I quote, "*why put me to the test, you hypocrites?*"

And so, it's important to keep in mind why it was that the Pharisees were asking Yeshua questions about divorce. It wasn't because they wanted to understand... they thought in their small minds that they already did understand, and they were going to trick our Messiah by asking him this question that was long ago decided by several of their misguided Rabbis. What they didn't know... is that they did not have the correct answer to the question of divorce. And Yeshua was about to school them concerning the truth as he always did.

So, with that in mind, let's return back to the book of Mark chapter 10 verses one through 12:

**Mar 10:1** *And he left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to him again. And again, as was his custom, he taught them.*

**Mar 10:2** *And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"*

**Mar 10:3** *He answered them, "What did Moses command you?"*

**Mar 10:4** *They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away."*

**Mar 10:5** *And Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment.*

**Mar 10:6** *But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.'*

**Mar 10:7** *'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife,*

**Mar 10:8** *and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh.*

*Mar 10:9 What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”*

*Mar 10:10 And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.*

*Mar 10:11 And he said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her,*

*Mar 10:12 and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”*

I want us to notice in verse three, that our Messiah once again points them right back to the Torah as he always does. He points them right back to Moses, and he asks them “*what did Moses command you?*” And I want us to understand how tectonically important it is to realize that our Messiah was constantly pointing back to Moses and the Torah of his Father just like the apostles were constantly pointing back to the Torah and their father in heaven throughout all of their teachings. It’s important to understand that the Old Testament is quoted. In the New Testament over 855 times.

We have to remember that Yeshua did not come to preach his own word or his own gospel. Our Messiah did not come to teach people how to celebrate his own birthday, or how to change his Father’s seventh day Sabbath to the first day of the week, or how to engage in the pagan festivals of Good Friday, lent, Ash Wednesday, or Easter.

Our Messiah did not come preaching his own word. He came preaching his Father’s word. I’d like us to turn to the book of John chapter 12 verses 49 and 50:

*Joh 12:49 For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak.*

*Joh 12:50 And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”*

Once again, my friends, our Messiah did not come to supersede his Father’s law. He did not come to replace his Father. He did not come to make himself out to be God on earth. He was exactly who he said he was... and I quote, “the Son... Of God”. Yeshua never claimed to sit in the throne of his Father. He always claimed to sit at the right hand of his Father, and this is a biblical truth that must be understood in order to understand what it was that our Messiah came to preach in the first place. He did not come to preach his own word, he came to preach his Father’s word, and just so that we can be clear on this, I want us to take a look at a couple of Scriptures. One of the first Scriptures I’d like us to take a look at is found in the book of John chapter 14 verse 28:

*Joh 14:28 You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.*

Once again, my friends, our Messiah does not claim to be his Father. He tells his disciples that his Father is greater than he is. Let's turn to the book of Matthew chapter 24 versus 33 through 36:

*Mat 24:33 So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates.*

*Mat 24:34 Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.*

*Mat 24:35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.*

*Mat 24:36 "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.*

Once again, we see here that no one knows when our Messiah will return. Not even our Messiah knows. But only... The Father.

And so, I want us to understand that when the Pharisees were asking our Messiah about divorce, our Messiah was not just pulling things out of his hat, or making things up as he went along, or preaching some kind of new gospel that he just came up with. Our Messiah was pointing them right back to the exact same gospel that had been taught from the beginning of the book.

And so, when they asked him the question "*is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?*" He immediately answered them with "*what did Moses command you?*" Once again, he was pointing them right back to the beginning of the book where few modern-day Christians fear to tread.

We're going to take a look at exactly what Moses said about divorce in just a moment, but before we do, I want us to concentrate a little longer on what our Messiah said in the book of Mark chapter 10 verses one through 12:

*Mar 10:1 And he left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to him again. And again, as was his custom, he taught them.*

*Mar 10:2 And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"*

*Mar 10:3 He answered them, "What did Moses command you?"*

*Mar 10:4 They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away."*

*Mar 10:5 And Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment.*

*Mar 10:6 But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.'*

*Mar 10:7 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife,*

*Mar 10:8 and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh.*

*Mar 10:9 What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”*

*Mar 10:10 And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.*

*Mar 10:11 And he said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her,*

*Mar 10:12 and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”*

As our Messiah continues to school the Pharisees on the Torah, he gets down to versus 11 and 12 and he says this, “*Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.*”

Now at first glance, when people see this, they automatically bound up out of their chairs and start jumping all around telling everyone that anyone who gets remarried is committing adultery!

But is this true? Or could it possibly be... that Mark was simply giving his interpretation of what he heard our Messiah say that day? Is it possible... that Mark may have left out some very important information in his account of what our Messiah said that day?

We have to remember that there were 12 apostles, not just one, and that there are several eyewitnesses, that testify throughout our Scripture concerning what our Messiah did and did not say. Mark was simply quoting what he thought was important for his audience to understand. The bottom line is that God hates divorce. And so, Mark was trying to make that extremely clear to his audience. But what else did our Messiah say that day? Is there more to the story? Do any of the other 12 apostles also have an account of what was said by our Messiah that day?

The answer to that intelligent question... Is yes. Yes, there is someone with another account of what our Messiah said that day. Yes, there is more information than what Mark is giving us here in the book of Mark. Yes, our Messiah does go a little farther into depth concerning this question about divorce, but we’re never going to know that if we simply cherry pick this Scripture out of the Bible and run around thinking that we know something. I want us to turn to the book of Matthew chapter 19 versus three through nine:

*Mat 19:3 And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful to divorce one’s wife for any cause?”*

*Mat 19:4 He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,*

*Mat 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’?*

*Mat 19:6 So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”*

*Mat 19:7 They said to him, “Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?”*

*Mat 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.*

*Mat 19:9 And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery.”*

Does anyone see the extra information that Mark clearly left out of his account? In verse nine, our Messiah very clearly says and I quote, “*and I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery.*”

Now... I would submit to you that this is a little different than “*whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.*”

What’s the difference between these two accounts? The difference between these two accounts are the words, “*except for sexual immorality.*”

Mark does not make mention of these most important words, that Matthew does make mention of. Now my friends... If this is not a perfect example of why it is dangerous to cherry pick Scriptures out of the Bible... and to then to run around boasting about how much we think we know about what’s in the Bible... then I don’t know what is.

Whole **denominations** have been built on Mark chapter 10 verses 11 and 12. Whole denominations now refuse to remarry anyone because according to their brand of man-made wisdom... remarriage is a sin. Man-made denominational charters, that are nothing more than empires of dirt... are now running around telling people that if they have been remarried... that they’re going to hell. Why? Because once again, they have not read the book from the beginning to the end, and the prophecy of Isaiah is once again fulfilled... that says, and I quote “*You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.*”

According to what our Messiah tells us in the book of Matthew chapter 19 verse nine... it is indeed within the boundaries of God’s commandment to divorce a woman for sexual immorality, and then to remarry. Not according to today’s denominational charters, not according to someone so-called “early church father”, not according to some Wolf in sheep’s clothing standing behind a pulpit... but according to our Messiah’s own red-letter words.

How do we know that we are right in our understanding? All we have to do is turn back to the book of Deuteronomy to see what Moses said. Is this not exactly what our Messiah not pointed the Pharisees back to? Was it not what Moses said? And so, don’t we think it’s important to

know what Moses said? Let's turn back to Deuteronomy chapter 24 versus one through four:

**Deu 24:1** “When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, and she departs out of his house,

**Deu 24:2** and if she goes and becomes another man's wife,

**Deu 24:3** and the latter man hates her and writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the latter man dies, who took her to be his wife,

**Deu 24:4** then her former husband, who sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after she has been defiled, for that is an abomination before the LORD. And you shall not bring sin upon the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance.

I want us to understand a couple of things that can be clearly seen within the Scripture. Number one, according to the law of Moses, a man could divorce his wife for almost any reason. According to the law of Moses, adultery was just one of the things that a man could divorce his wife for. But in reality... according to Moses, a man could divorce his wife simply because she finds no favor in his eyes.

The word “favor” is the Hebrew word “Khane”, and it actually means “favor”... which can mean beauty, or favor, or grace, so it can mean several things but notice... that it does not necessarily mean “sexual immorality”, nor does it necessarily mean “adultery.”

Moses was allowing them to be divorced for almost anything. A man could divorce his wife for a multitude of reasons... other than “sexual immorality”. He could divorce her if she argued over something with him, or he could divorce her if he didn't like the way she looked anymore, or he could divorce her because of her cooking, or for anything that she did that did not find favor in his eyes. And Yeshua says that Moses allowed this because of the hardness of their hearts... because their hearts were not right with God.

If their hearts had been right with God, they would have recognized that they were supposed to be one flesh. But because they did not have the love of God in their hearts... they could not have love for each other in their hearts. And when there is no love between a man and a woman, there is nothing but evil, and fighting, and chaos in the home, so... Moses allowed them to be divorced so that there would be no evil, and fighting, and chaos in the home, and so that they could live in peace.

So, when the Pharisees asked our Messiah about divorce, he directs them right back to the Torah and what Moses commanded them, and he tells them that when two people are married, a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one

flesh. And of course, the Pharisees fire right back at our Messiah and they say, “Well... why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?”... Upon which time our Messiah tells them that Moses allowed them to divorce their wives because of their hardness of heart.

Now I want us to understand what the biblical definition of a “hard heart” actually is. Once again, in order to understand what our Messiah was talking about when he said that their hearts were hardened... We must go back to the beginning of the book.

*Eze 36:24 I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land.*

*Eze 36:25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.*

*Eze 36:26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.*

*Eze 36:27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

Yeshua was not saying that they were getting divorced because they were mean, or because they hated each other. What Yeshua was telling them is that Moses allowed them to get divorced because they were not keeping Gods commandments as they should have.

Having a heart of “stone” or a “hard” heart is a euphemism for being lawless. In other words, they were keeping the law by the letter, and by their works... instead of keeping the law by faith the way he intended them to, they were keeping the law by works. And we can see another instance of that in the New Testament in Romans chapter 9 verses 30 through 33:

*Rom 9:30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith;*

*Rom 9:31 but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law.*

*Rom 9:32 Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone,*

*Rom 9:33 as it is written, “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”*

Harness of heart represents: unbelief, faithless, wrecklessness, Lawlessness... etc. Notice what is written in Jeremiah chapter 31 verse 33:

*Jer 31:33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their*

hearts. *And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

Now I want us to contrast this with what we find in Hebrews chapter 10 of the new covenant in verses 16 and 17:

*Heb 10:16* “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,”

*Heb 10:17* then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

You see this is what the new covenant that our Messiah’s very blood brought us... is all about. It’s about God writing his laws in our hearts and in our minds... And this is why Moses allowed them to divorce for almost any reason. Just as were told in Eze 36:26... He says and I quote “ *And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.* ”

My friends too many modern-day professing Christians have traded the wisdom of God for the wisdom of men and their brick-and-mortar denominational institutions, and their so-called early church fathers, and they literally worship their favorite pastors, priests, Bishops, and Popes more than they worship the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob.

But this is why Moses allowed them to divorce over almost anything. And our Messiah does not get rid of divorce and the law of Moses... he simply strengthens it. He narrows the opportunity for divorce. He takes the law of Moses, and he refines what Moses commanded them. Once again in Matthew chapter 19 verse nine he says and I quote, “*And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery.*”

I want to stop right here for just a moment and examine this statement. Our Messiah says, “*whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality...*” Let’s examine this Scripture because it’s important to understand exactly what our Messiah said, and in order to understand exactly what our Messiah said, we must go to the original Greek language that the New Testament is written in. Does it really say, “except for sexual immorality”? And if so... how do we define “sexual immorality”? Let’s turn back to Matthew chapter 19 verse nine:

*Mat 19:9* *And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery.*”

Notice ... that Yeshua does not use the word “adultery”... Which is the Greek word moykhyoo-o... (And we’ll take a look at that in just a second). He says that you can divorce for sexual immorality (porneia)... So, in other words, if a man’s wife does anything sexually immoral... she can be divorced from her husband. And I want us to understand the difference between fornication, and adultery. These are two very different words. Our Messiah does not say “whoever divorces his wife, except for **adultery**”... He says “whoever divorces his wife, except for **sexual immorality** (or fornication, which is

also known as the Greek as porneia)”).

There is a difference between fornication (which is sexual immorality), and adultery. Adultery is when you sleep with someone other than your husband or your wife. Fornication, or sexual immorality, opens the door to a wide variety of behavior. Let’s take a look at the Greek word for “adultery”. Let’s turn to Matthew chapter 5 versus 27 and 28:

**Mat 5:27** “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’

**Mat 5:28** But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

The first thing that we want to see here is that our Messiah uses the word adultery in verse 27, which is indeed the Greek word “moy-khyoo-o”. And so, I just want us to be very clear, that this is not the same word that he uses in Matthew chapter 19 verse nine. In Matthew chapter 19 verse nine, our Messiah clearly does say and I quote, “*And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for **sexual immorality**, and marries another, commits adultery.*” So, I want us to be clear on that. And I also want us to be clear on the fact that there is a difference between the Greek words “moy-khyoo-o” (which means adultery), and “Porneia”, (which means fornication, or sexual immorality).

So, what our Messiah is saying here in Matthew chapter 19 verse nine... is that a man can divorce his wife for sexual immorality. And I want us to notice what our Messiah says here in Matthew chapter 5 versus 27 and 28. He clearly says and I quote, “*You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*”

And so, if a man who looks on a woman lustfully... he has already committed adultery in his heart... Do you think that this also applies to a women who looks at a man lustfully in her heart? And would that not be considered sexual immorality? Would that not qualify as fornication that has been done within her heart? You bet it does. So, in other words if a man has a wife that is flirtatious, and is making sexual advances towards other men, and has a Jezebel spirit that is leading men into thoughts of sexual fornication.... that is sexual immorality, and her husband can divorce her for it according to scripture.

Now there are some people who will say that even if you divorce your wife for sexual immorality, or you divorce your husband for sexual immorality... that you cannot remarry without committing adultery according to what Mark says that our Messiah said in Mark chapter 10 verses 11 and 12. So let’s go back and read Mark chapter 10 verses 11 and 12:

**Mar 10:11** And he said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her,

*Mar 10:12 and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”*

Once again, we see that Mark left out the exception clause found in Matthew chapter 19 verse nine, that clearly tells us that a man can divorce his wife for sexual immorality. What our Messiah is saying here in Mark chapter 10 verses 11 and 12... is that whoever divorces his wife for any other reason other than **sexual immorality**... commits adultery against her.

In other words... According to our Messiah in Matthew chapter 19 verse nine, you can't just divorce your wife or your husband because you feel like it. You can't just divorce your wife or your husband because you don't like the way they look, or because you don't like the way they cook a meal, or because they do, or do not take the trash out when you ask them to, or because your wife doesn't get along with your mother, or your husband doesn't get along with your mother. None of these are grounds for divorce. And if you divorce someone for any other reason other than sexual immorality... then you are committing adultery against that other person, and your causing that other person to cause adultery if they remarry. Why? Because they were not divorced according to the law. The law says that you can only be divorced for sexual immorality.

Now how do we know for sure that Yeshua was talking about sexual immorality, and not about adultery? Well, first of all we've already covered that, and we looked at the original Greek language, and we know the difference between both the English and the Greek words "fornication" and "adultery". They are two very different, and very distinct words in both the Greek, and the English languages. Not to mention the fact, that adultery is punishable by death. Let's turn to the book of Exodus chapter 20 versus 10 through 13:

*Lev 20:10 "If a man commits adultery with the wife of his neighbor, both the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death."*

*Lev 20:11 If a man lies with his father's wife, he has uncovered his father's nakedness; both of them shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.*

*Lev 20:12 If a man lies with his daughter-in-law, both of them shall surely be put to death; they have committed perversion; their blood is upon them.*

*Lev 20:13 If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.*

Now... today we do not put those who commit adultery to death. Not because God's law has been erased, or nailed to the cross... (Which by the way is not found anywhere in your Bible either)... but because we no longer have a temple, or a high priest on earth, or the Levitical court system that God long ago placed on earth.

In order to stone someone for any sin... you had to take that person to the priest, and to the temple, and according to law, there was a judicial system in place that judged people for what

they had done or what they had not done. You had to have at least two witnesses, along with their sworn testimonies and several other things had to take place in order for the law to be fulfilled properly. It was illegal to stone anyone without two or more witnesses present who were willing to give their sworn testimony, and the Levitical and Aaronic priesthood was put in place to carry these things out properly according to the law.

Today we live in a Babylonian world, under Babylonian rule. But the Scriptures tell us very clearly that his law, and his commandments, and his precepts and his appointments will once again be reestablished when he returns. And that's another whole teaching that we could get into that that we don't have time for here today, but I would simply remind you that our Father in heaven is the same yesterday today and tomorrow. He does not change. He cared about his law in the beginning, he cares about his law today, and he will reinstitute his law when he returns according to Scripture. And it is long past time that humanity wakes up and realizes not only what the word of God says... but just as equally important... what the word of God does not say. I'd like us to very quickly turn to first Corinthians chapter 2 versus three through five:

**1Co 2:3** *And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling,*

**1Co 2:4** *and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,*

**1Co 2:5** *so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.*

The apostle Paul warns us over, and over again about the wisdom of men, and their super apostles, and their so-called "early church fathers". And in the book of Jude we read about Yeshua's other half-brother "Jude" who tells us that certain people have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only master and Lord Yeshua Hamashiach. In Ephesians chapter 4 verses 11 through 14, we're told that this is why he gives us apostles, and profits, and evangelists, and shepherds, and teachers... so that we may no longer be children tossed to and fro by the waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, and by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

And so, it's important to know and to understand what the Bible says according to our God breathed Scriptures, and it is equally as important to understand... what the Bible does not say according to our God breathed Scriptures.

Now, with all of this being said, I think it should be clear to us what the law of God actually says about divorce. But before we move forward, I want to go back to Deuteronomy chapter 24 versus one through four:

**Deu 24:1** *"When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, and she departs out of*

*his house,*

*Deu 24:2 and if she goes and becomes another man's wife,*

*Deu 24:3 and the latter man hates her and writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the latter man dies, who took her to be his wife,*

*Deu 24:4 then her former husband, who sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after she has been defiled, for that is an abomination before the LORD. And you shall not bring sin upon the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance.*

Now once again I want to reiterate the fact that this is what our Messiah pointed to when the Pharisees asked him about divorce. When the Pharisees asked our Messiah about divorce, the first thing that he asked them is and I quote, “what did Moses tell you?”

So, our Messiah was pointing them right back to the law of Moses that we see found right here in Deuteronomy chapter 24 versus one through four. And so, it’s important for us to clearly understand what the law says according to Deuteronomy chapter 24 versus one through four.

I want us to notice here in Deuteronomy chapter 24 verse three, that a man is commanded to write a certificate of divorce, and to put it in the woman’s hand. Why? Because only a woman who has a certificate of divorce can remarry. If a man sets a woman out of his house without a certificate of divorce, she is not able to remarry, and neither is he. And this is a very cruel punishment, especially for a woman back in those days who lived out in the wilderness. A woman alone in the wilderness did not fare well amongst the beasts of the field, and men of other tribes and other nations who would find her alone and by herself.

And so, Moses commands the man to write out a certificate of divorce, and to give it to the woman and to put it in her hand, so that she can remarry, and that they can live in peace.

And I want us to notice what is written here in verses two through four.

*Deu 24:2 and if she goes and becomes another man's wife,*

*Deu 24:3 and the latter man hates her and writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the latter man dies, who took her to be his wife,*

*Deu 24:4 then her former husband, who sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after she has been defiled, for that is an abomination before the LORD. And you shall not bring sin upon the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance.*

Notice that there is nothing in the law that says that she cannot become another man’s wife. It simply says that if the second man she marries divorces her... or if he dies... she can no longer

return to her first husband. That's all the law says. The law does not say that you cannot be remarried. It simply says that if you're divorced because of sexual immorality, and you marry another man, you can no longer return to your first husband.

Now... Keeping that in mind, if you were divorced, and the woman never remarried another man, then there is no reason why she cannot be reconciled back to her husband again even though they were divorced. As long as you were not remarried to another man... You can return to your first husband even though you are divorced.

None of this law was erased by our Messiah. In fact, our Messiah pointed right back to it. The only modification that our Messiah made, was that a man could no longer divorce his wife for just anything. He could only divorce his wife for sexual immorality. Our Messiah did not erase, or do away with the law of Moses found in Deuteronomy chapter 24 versus two through four... He simply reinforced it, and refined it.

Now, with all that being said, there's something else that I want us to understand about what our Messiah said. Our Messiah also says in Matthew chapter 19 verse six and I quote, "*what therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.*"

So, the question then becomes, did God join you together in holy matrimony? Were you baptized before you got married? And if so... what were you baptized into? Were you baptized into the Pentecostal faith, or the Baptist faith, or any other number of denominational faiths.... or were you baptized into the Messiah?

My friends if you were baptized as a Baptist... or a Catholic (who don't even know how to baptized properly in first place)... or a Pentecostal... or any other denominational charter... then you were baptized into a Babylonian harlot. You were not baptized into our Messiah and the gospel that he came to preach and teach, which was not his own, but his Father's Torah. And I want us to think about that for just a moment.

Who joined you together in marriage? Many people were married when they were younger, and before they ever even knew what the Torah was. Some people were married when they were Gentiles. Some people got married early out of high school because the girl became pregnant, or because they thought that they were in love war before they ever really got to know each other, or because their parents push them into the marriage. This does not mean that God joined you together. If you or someone else joined you together with someone... that's a whole different thing than God joining two people together that are Torah observant and are doing things according to his Torah.

Gentiles are not children of God, and therefore Gentiles have not been joined together by God, because they don't belong to him.

If you were not baptized before you got married, and if you were not keeping the

commandments of Yahovah, then how can you say that Yahovah joined you together? And what baptism were you baptized into if you were baptized? I want us to turn to the book of acts chapter 19 versus one through five:

**Act 19:1** *And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples.*

**Act 19:2** *And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."*

**Act 19:3** *And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism."*

**Act 19:4** *And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus."*

**Act 19:5** *On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

I want us to notice here my friends that there are different kinds of baptism. The disciples that Paul found were baptized into John's baptism. This was not a sufficient baptism. It was simply a baptism of repentance, but it had nothing to do with baptizing them into the very name of Yeshua Hamashiach and crafting them into the house of Israel as were told in Romans chapter 11 by the apostle Paul.

Now, my friends I want us to understand, that if we were baptized into a denomination... and this denomination rejects the law of God... then our baptism is of no effect. If we were baptized into a denominational belief system that rejects the law of God that our Messiah came to teach and preach... then we were not baptized into the gospel of our Messiah, we do not have our father's laws written in our hearts and in our minds, and the free gift of his salvation will not be given to those who do not have his law written in their hearts and in their minds according to our God breathed Scripture in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. Why? Because they are literally preaching "another Jesus". They are literally preaching "another gospel". They are literally preaching "another spirit". We have to ask ourselves, what will we be baptized into? If we were baptized with a denominational value stamped across our forehead... Then we were baptized into a Babylonian harlot that preaches and teaches another Jesus, another gospel, and another spirit.

They teach "once saved always saved". Our Messiah taught "the **hope** of salvation, and the crown that would be given at the first resurrection to those who have conquered over evil and have picked up their crosses and have followed him and have passed the test by enduring to the end".

They teach "do as thou wilt is now the whole of the law" because you are once saved always saved, because the law has been nailed to the cross, and you can return like a dog to your vomit or like a pig to its mire and wallow in your sin because it really doesn't matter... your once saved always saved according to them.

We can find the truth about what our God breathed scripture tells us in Hebrews 10 verses 26 through 31:

*Heb 10:26 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,*

*Heb 10:27 but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.*

*Heb 10:28 Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses.*

*Heb 10:29 How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?*

*Heb 10:30 For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people."*

*Heb 10:31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

And we can find this again in Hebrews chapter 6 versus four through six, and other places all throughout our God breathed Scripture, and we have many other teachings concerning that at our website at holy impact ministries.com.

My point in all of this is what were you baptized into? Whose baptism was it that you were baptized into? Was it a false man-made Jesus that came to nail his Father's laws to his cross so that you don't have to be bothered with them, and to celebrate his own birthday, and to change his Father's seventh day Sabbath to the first day of the week and call it his own Sabbath, or to teach God's children to worship the anniversary of his death on Good Friday instead of Passover day the day he truly died? Is this the modern-day Babylonian Jesus that you were baptized into? Was it the Hebrew Jewish Messiah Yeshua Hamashiach, who came from the house of David and the tribe of Judah?

Were you baptized into Yeshua Hamashiach who is the only begotten son of God who came to preach and teach his Father's word and not his own? Were you baptized into Yeshua Hamashiach who clearly tells us that not one crossing of a T or one dotting of an "I" is going to pass from his Father's law until heaven and earth pass away and all things are accomplished... which does not happen until clear at the back of the book in Revelation chapter 21? Were you baptized into Yeshua Hamashiach who clearly tells us that he does not sit in his Father's throne, but that he sits at the right hand of his Father in his own throne?

What were you baptized into? Whose baptism were you baptized into? Listen to what the apostle Paul told the church at Galatia... we can find that in Galatians chapter 1 versus six through nine:

**Gal 1:6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the**

*grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—*

*Gal 1:7 not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.*

*Gal 1:8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.*

*Gal 1:9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.*

I tell you the truth my friends, there is a stark difference between the Jesus of today's modern-day version of Christianity and its professing Christian... and the true only begotten son of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob according to what we find in our God breathed Scripture, and the gospel message that the apostles preached and taught and laid their lives down for.

And so, my point in all of this is that no matter what you've done in your past life... when you truly come to the Messiah, and you truly confess that Yeshua Hamashiach is the only begotten son of God, and you truly make a commitment to pick up your cross and to walk as he walked, and to keep his Father's feast days and appointments as he did... then, and only then, are you truly baptized into the body of our Messiah and grafted into the Olive tree and belong to Yahovah the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob and his only begotten Son Yeshua Hamashiach. We must be baptized in both the water and the spirit... not just the water. Then and only then, do you become a new creature. Then, and only then, is the old person put to death, and a new person raised up from the watery grave of baptism.

Can you be remarried after baptism? Absolutely! If you have not been baptized properly into the Messiah, once you are baptized properly into the Messiah, and have come into the knowledge of the truth, and except the commitment of what it means to be a follower, and to pick up your cross and to follow him, and you understand the true biblical definition of faith... And you understand that faith without works is dead... then, and only then, are you a new creature. The old person has been dead and buried, and the new creature is risen.

Then and only then, can you come before the Father properly understanding his laws, and his precepts, and his appointments, and be joined together by the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob.

The world could care less. I tell you the truth my friends, many modern-day professing Christians along with the Gentile world live like wild dogs out on the street. They sleep with whoever they want, whenever they want, as many times as they want, and they're all too ready to jump in the sack with the next thing that comes along, just like dogs do out in the street.

They don't know, nor do they care about the free gift of salvation, or whose image that they were created in, or the life that is to come. Once again, the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that

says “*You will indeed hear, but never understand, and you will indeed see, but never perceive.*”

Now... with that all being said, there is another Messianic view concerning what our Messiah was saying in the book of Matthew concerning divorce. It is often taught within Messianic circles that Yeshua was not talking about divorce, but that he was rather speaking about sending your wife away without a certificate of divorce. Divorce according to the law of Moses demands that a man put a certificate of divorce in the hand of his wife before he sends her away. If a man sends a woman away without a certificate of divorce, he nor she, can remarry. And this became a matter of life and death for single woman who lived alone back in those days. And so, this is why it was commanded that a man must provide a certificate of divorce to the woman and put it in her hand. And many Messianic rabbis feel that this is what our Messiah was actually talking about. I am not convinced of this rather weak argument that they make, however it does lead to the same truth, and so I will leave that alone, but I just wanted to let you know that it is another viewpoint that leads to the same conclusion.

But no matter which way you look at it my friends, if you have suffered through a divorce because of sexual immorality... according to the law of Moses, which is exactly what our Messiah points back to... you can indeed remarry. But what you cannot do... is marry an unbeliever. We are commanded not to be yoked together unequally with unbelievers. Let's turn to second Corinthians chapter 6 versus 14 through 18:

**2Co 6:14** *Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?*

**2Co 6:15** *What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?*

**2Co 6:16** *What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

**2Co 6:17** *Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you,*

**2Co 6:18** *and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.”*

And so, knowing these things, and understanding these things it's important that we teach these things diligently to our children and help them to know and to understand why it is important that they marry a true Christian who is Torah observant, and knowledgeable concerning what their God breathed Scriptures do, and do not say.

And another point that I would like to make in closing is that, just because someone is guilty of sexual immorality... this does not mean that you should be divorced, or that you have to be divorced. It simply gives you the right to be divorced. But understand, that God hates divorce. We are to love, and we are to forgive, but... even God himself has his limits. Even God himself

has been through divorce. I'd like us to turn to Jeremiah chapter 3 versus six through eight:

*Jer 3:6 The LORD said to me in the days of King Josiah: "Have you seen what she did, that faithless one, Israel, how she went up on every high hill and under every green tree, and there played the whore?"*

*Jer 3:7 And I thought, 'After she has done all this she will return to me,' but she did not return, and her treacherous sister Judah saw it.*

*Jer 3:8 She saw that for all the adulteries of that faithless one, Israel, I had sent her away with a decree of divorce. Yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear, but she too went and played the whore.*

Does God understand the need for divorce? Yes he does. But he does not choose it. He hates it. God hates it when someone is stoned to death for choosing sin over righteousness. God hated it when he had to watch his son being crucified on the stake for the sins of the whole world. God hates evil, and what evil leads to, but he understands the need for justice, and righteousness, and for holiness to prevail.

So, if you've been divorced... do not think that God does not know what you're going through. Read the book of Hosea and know and understand that our Father is well-educated in both divorce... Sexual immorality, and remarriage.

And with all of that biblical knowledge under our belts, I hope that we have come to a better understanding concerning divorce and remarriage, and what it was that our Messiah came to teach and preach. Our Messiah never preached anything that is in opposition to his Father's Torah. He simply taught that people were not to be divorced for anything other than... sexual immorality. And with that being said, I want us to understand that the world is full of sexual immorality. If your sitting at home looking at porn on the computer while your wife is at the grocery store... you need to know and understand that that's grounds for divorce according to our Messiah. That is sexual immorality. And If you have trouble believing that... I challenge you to read the book of Leviticus chapter 18, and then come back and tell me that that's not sexual immorality or fornication.

Our adversary has set landmines of deception all throughout today's society and culture and Christian religion. Our adversary has set snares even within what people presume to be the houses of God. Our adversary is brilliant. He is like a prowling lion that lurks around in the high grass waiting for an opportunity to pounce on the flock and to shred the flock into pieces. Our adversary is sifting us all the day long, and we need to be aware of how brilliant that he truly is. We need to ask our Father to help us take the blinders off so that we can see the snares and the traps that have been laid before us. We need to ask for his discernment so that we can read his God breathed Scriptures and be able to see, and to comprehend, and to understand them properly.

This cannot be done if we're busy following after the wisdom of men and our favorite pastors, priests, Bishops, or Popes. We must be busy following after the only begotten son of God who is Yeshua Hamashiach who came to cut a path, and to show us the way, and to lead us and to guide us, and to usher us into his coming kingdom. He is the one door that no man can shut. He is the life and the truth and the way. No one comes on to the Father except through him. And those who do not pick up their crosses and follow him are not worthy of him. Those who love mother or father more than him, are not worthy of him. Those who loves son or daughter more than him, are not worthy of him, and those who put their hands to the plow and look back are not worthy of his kingdom.

We are in a spiritual warfare, and it is time that we put on... The full armor of God.