

## DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE 244

Lenny Santee

TEXT: Heb. 13:4.

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Marriage is sacred because it was conceived by God and planned by Him to bless mankind.
- B. The problem is that many marriages 1 in 2, 2 in 5 end in divorce.
  - 1. In the last 1 ½ years I personally know of 5 divorces.
  - 2. 10 Adults and 13 Children directly affected.
- C. Divorce is common place in the world today.
- D. Whatever affects the world will affect the church sooner or later.
- E. In the church today there are changing attitudes about divorce and re-marriage. Why? John Waddey gives these;
  - 1. Congregations have many remarried divorced persons.
  - 2. Leaders take anyone in their fellowship so they can grow.
  - 3. Some preachers measure their message by the popularity charts. Anything not popular is not preached on.
  - 4. Some have readjusted their views because of (themselves or Lenny added) a family member.
  - 5. Some are ignorant of God's teaching.
  - 6. Some are exalting human wisdom over God's word.
- F. Let us look at this subject this way: (Could go on for months)
  - 1. Define the terms.
  - 2. The purpose of marriage.
  - 3. God's rule on marriage.
  - 4. One exception.

BODY:

## I. TERMS WE WILL BE USING.

- A. Marriage- A man and woman taking each other as husband and wife, fulfilling such legal requirements as are necessary. This is either with God's approval or not.
  - 1. God does not approve of all marriages though sees it as a marriage.
  - 2. Mark 6:17-18.
- B. Divorce-A legal action by which the state declares a marriage no longer in effect. This does not mean that God approved of this divorce but that He sees it as a divorce.
- C. Fornication-PORNEIA-Any illicit or unlawful sexual activity. Fornication is a broad term that includes adultery.
- D. Adultery-MOICHOS-Unlawful sexual activity with the spouse of another. This is a more narrow term. All adultery is fornication, but not all fornication is adultery.
- E. Separation-A husband and wife not living together although not considering themselves free to re-marry-1 Cor. 7:10-11 provides for this with God's approval.

## II. THE PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE.

- A. Man's happiness. Gen. 2:18 **And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."**
- B. Continuance of the race. Gen. 1:28 **Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."**
- C. Godly offspring.
  - 1. Mal. 2:14-16. **Yet you say, "For what reason?" Because the Lord has been witness Between you and the wife of your youth, With whom you have dealt treacherously; Yet she is your companion And your wife by covenant. But did He not make them one, Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring. Therefore take heed to your spirit, And let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth. "For the Lord God of Israel says That He hates divorce, For it covers one's garment with violence," Says the Lord of hosts. "Therefore take heed to your spirit, That you do not deal treacherously."**
  - 2. Broken homes from divorce are linked to juvenile delinquency.
- D. Prevention of fornication- 1 Cor. 7:2-3, 9.
- E. Complete satisfaction.

1. Prov. 5:15-20 **Drink water from your own cistern, And running water from your own well. Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets? Let them be only your own, and not for strangers with you. Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice with the wife of your youth. As a loving deer and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; And always be enraptured with her love. For why should you, my son, be enraptured by an immoral woman, And be embraced in the arms of a seductress?**

2. 1 Tim. 5:14.

F. Marriage is a type of Christ and the church. Eph. 5:22- 25.

### III. GOD'S RULE FOR MARRIAGE.

A. Put in words-a man, and a woman till death.

B. Gen. 2:18-25 the rule has always been. **And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.**

C. Rom. 7:2-3.

D. Lk. 16:18.

E. 1 Cor. 7:10-11, 39.

F. Marriage is very import to God.

1. Adultery punished by death- Deut. 22:22. **"If a man is found lying with a woman married to a husband, then both of them shall die--the man that lay with the woman, and the woman; so you shall put away the evil from Israel.**

2. Slaves not to be separated from their wives- Ex. 21:2-3.

#### IV. AN EXCEPTION TO GOD'S RULE.

##### A. Mk. 10:1-12.

1. Pharisees were talking about Deut. 24:1-4 **"When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some uncleanness in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce, puts [it] in her hand, and sends her out of his house, "when she has departed from his house, and goes and becomes another man's [wife], "[if] the latter husband detests her and writes her a certificate of divorce, puts [it] in her hand, and sends her out of his house, or if the latter husband dies who took her as his wife, "[then] her former husband who divorced her must not take her back to be his wife after she has been defiled; for that [is] an abomination before the Lord, and you shall not bring sin on the land which the Lord your God is giving you [as] an inheritance..**
  - a. First notice Moses was regulating when a man divorced a woman then she married and was divorced from the second man, the first man could not marry her again.
  - b. Sammai thought-some uncleanness was a moral issue.
  - c. Hillel thought-some uncleanness was almost anything; bad breath, snoring, a running sore, or burning the food.
2. Jesus went back to Gen. 2:18-25.
3. The one exception for divorce with the right of the innocent party to re-marry is **SEXUAL IMMORALITY.**

##### B. Matt. 19:3-9 one exception.

#### CONCLUSION:

- A. Heb. 13:4 **Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.**
- B. We might have changing attitudes about divorce and remarriage but God's word still stands firm.
- C. God says:
  1. One man one woman for life.
  2. One can remarry if his or her mate dies.
  3. One can re-marry if they have divorced their mate for fornication.
  4. Anything else is sin.