

Making & Breaking the Marriage Bond
Acts 5:29, Malachi 2:16
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Thesis: I want to show the importance of obeying God over man.

- Intro:
1. There are times that certain laws allow us to do things but does the Bible?
 2. The world has a very “open” view concerning marriage, divorce and remarriage.
 3. However, we must remember God’s law must be obeyed

I. Making the Marriage Bond - Marriage

A. Marriage is a divine institution (**Gen 2:24**)

1. The marriage bond was created by God (**Gen 2:18**).
2. God created marriage for many reasons.

B. Marriage is for a man and woman only (**Lev 18:22**)

1. Man was designed by God and was designed in a certain way.
2. Same-sex unions are against nature & God (**Rom 1:26**)

C. What about marriage between a Christian and a non-Christian (**1 Cor 7:12-14 – to those married to non-Christians**)?

1. God instructs those who are married to non-Christians to not depart from them
2. We are told that they unbeliever may be converted (**1 Cor 7:16**).
3. While marriage to a non-Christian may cause hardships in some marriages there is no command that such is sinful.
 - If it was sinful to marry a non-Christian how could one properly repent without breaking the marriage bond for an unscriptural reason.
 - We must remember God’s law – fornication ONLY

(What about when a marriage between non-Christians is present and one of them is converted and the other isn’t?) –

-If its wrong for a Christian to be married to an unbeliever then this situation would have to be wrong as well-if you are consistent with your beliefs.

II. Breaking the Marriage Bond - Divorce

A. **Matt 19:3-10**

KJV- Fornication

NKJV,NIV – Sexual Immorality

NASB – Immorality

NLT - unfaithful

1. There is no more debated topic today that that of divorce. However, the Bible speaks plainly today just as it did during the time it was written.
2. Fornication – sexual sin that requires physical contact.
The one who marries one who has been put away commits adultery as well.
3. It was never in God’s plan for people to divorce thus there are one reason and one reason only that allows a person to do so with God’s approval – fornication.

B. **1 Cor 7:10-11** – written to the married

1. We cannot control the actions of others. If someone wants a divorce (especially today) they will get one. It was not God's desire that people divorce but if a spouse does depart he then commands them to remain unmarried (not to marry another) or to be reconciled.
 - a. The reason they are not to marry again is the first marriage is still intact. The divorce was not for a scriptural reason thus the partner who didn't depart cannot remarry. It's not that remarriage that isn't scriptural it's that the divorce wasn't scriptural.
 - b. However, if the person runs off with another then that is different but if they just depart and haven't married another you cannot remarry.
 - c. What we must remember is that remarriage is not an option unless the divorce is scriptural.
2. If two people have divorced for a reason other than **matt 19:9** you cannot remarry scripturally, no matter what the "law of the land" may say.
3. The person is allowed to depart because we are not slaves to the spouse in the idea that we would have to remain with them and forsake Christ (if that was the mate's desire for them), but that the mate might be converted by the believing person's faith, example, etc. (**1 Cor 7:16**).

III. Creating the Bond again – Remarriage (**Matt 19:3-9**)

A. **1 Cor 7:12-15**

1. if the unbeliever departs, there is little you can do about it, but YOU still are not eligible for remarriage (**Matt 19:9**). Desertion or being deserted by the husband or by the wife does not break the marriage bond.

B. God desires reconciliation (**Mal 2:16**).

1. God desired for man and wife to be "one flesh" (**Gen 2:24, Mt 19:6, Mk 10:9**)
2. God wants those who are married to be partners for life. There is only one exception.
 - a. However, just because someone commits adultery does not mean you MUST put the other person away.
 - b. That person can repeat, can be forgiven and it may not ever be an issue again.
 - c. Our society today has gotten divorce happy (you can get out of a marriage easier than you can a cell phone contract –brad harub).

- Conc:
1. We see many ideas concerning marriage, divorce and remarriage in the world as well as in the religious world.
 2. We must, if we desire to be faithful followers of God, follow His Word.
 3. Invitation