

# Divorce & Remarriage

What does the Bible say?

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- 2) When the Messiah comes, what will people hear and consider?
- 3) Who put words in the Lord's mouth?
- 4) When Paul wrote 1 Cor 7:12, "*to the rest I, not the Lord say,*" what did he mean? Was he merely giving his opinion?

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- 6) Does the present tense, "*Is it lawful ...*," limit the Lord to speaking only about Mosaic Law?
- 7) Did the Pharisees answer their own question and, if so, did Jesus agree with their answer (Mt 19)?

## **Divorce & Remarriage**

- 8) What did Paul mean, "*Every sin that a man does is outside the body ... [except for fornication]*" (1 Cor 6:18)?

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- 2) OT prophecy ⇒ Messiah teaches new law.
- 3) List NT legislation Jesus taught.
- 4) OT ⇒ allowed divorce for every cause.
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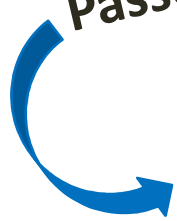
## **“Affordable” Health-Care Act**

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Nor **a lawgiver** from between his feet,  
Until **Shiloh** comes;  
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### Isaiah 42:4

<sup>4</sup> [My Servant] will not fail nor be discouraged,  
Till He has established justice in the earth;  
And **the coastlands shall wait for His law."**

## OT Prophecy

### Isaiah 52:15

<sup>15</sup> So shall [My Servant] sprinkle many nations.  
Kings shall shut their mouths at Him;  
**For what had not been told them they shall see,  
And what they had not heard they shall consider.**

## OT Prophecy

### Deuteronomy 18:18-19

<sup>18</sup> I will raise up for them a **Prophet like you** from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. <sup>19</sup> And it shall be that whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require it of him.

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### John 12:49

<sup>49</sup> For I have not spoken on My own authority; but **the Father** who sent Me **gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak.**

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### John 4:25

<sup>25</sup> The woman [at the well] said to Him, "I know that **Messiah** is coming" (who is called Christ). **"When He comes, He will tell us all things."**

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### Hebrews 2:3

<sup>3</sup> how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, **which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord ...**

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### Luke 4:22

<sup>22</sup> So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at **the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. ...**

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### 1 Timothy 6:3-4

<sup>3</sup> If anyone teaches otherwise and **does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness,** <sup>4</sup> he is proud, knowing nothing ...

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- Jesus taught "*the gospel of the kingdom*" (Mt 4:23).
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## Jesus ⇒ 1 Corinthians 7

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# Matthew 19:9

## Matthew 19:3

<sup>3</sup> The Pharisees also came to Him, **testing Him**, and saying to Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife [for every cause]?"

NIV Study Bible:

The question of the Pharisees was hostile. It was for unlawful divorce and remarriage that John the Baptist denounced Herod Antipas and Herodias (see 6:17-18), and this rebuke cost him first imprisonment and then his life. Jesus was now within Herod's jurisdiction, and the Pharisees may have hoped that Jesus' reply would cause the tetrarch to seize him as he had John.

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Now, "is" is present tense, isn't it? "Is it lawful?" They didn't say to him, "Will it be lawful after a while when you usher in your New Covenant?" ... They asked him the question, "IS" (Present tense), "Is it lawful?"

*Christ, The Man Of Sorrows, p. 231.*

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*It Is Written Of Marriage, Divorce And Remarriage, p. 14.*

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[“]Is it lawful[“] is present tense, not past tense, nor future tense.

*If Any Man Speak, p. 6*

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[“]Is it lawful[“] is present tense, not past tense, nor future tense.

*If Any Man Speak, p. 6*

## The “Present Tense” Argument

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The word "is" is present tense.

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"So until the law changes, you have to answer according to the present tense question: 'Is ... it ... lawful?'"

*Sermon at Moore, OK; Nov 17, 2013; 24:14 min. into speech.*

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### Matthew 19:4-6

<sup>4</sup> And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them **at the beginning** 'made them male and female,' <sup>5</sup> and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? <sup>6</sup> So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

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**QUESTION #1: Did the law "*from the beginning*" contradict Mosaic Law?**

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**QUESTION #1: Did the law "*from the beginning*" contradict Mosaic Law?**

**Matthew 19:8**  
<sup>8</sup> ... *from the beginning* it was not so.

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<sup>4</sup> And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them **at the beginning** 'made them male and female,' ...

**QUESTION #2: Was Mosaic Law was still in force?**

**Matthew 19:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them **at the beginning** 'made them male and female,' ...

**QUESTION #3: Was Jesus teaching people to break Mosaic Law?**

**Matthew 19:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them **at the beginning** 'made them male and female,' ...

**QUESTION #4: Was Jesus teaching only His disciples?**

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<sup>4</sup> And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them **at the beginning** 'made them male and female,' ...

**QUESTION #5: If Jesus could teach a law from the past, could He go the other direction in time?**

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<sup>4</sup> And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them **at the beginning** 'made them male and female,' ...

**QUESTION #6: Did Jesus ever clearly teach a future law about marriage?**

**Matthew 22:30**

<sup>30</sup> For **in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage**, but are like angels of God in heaven.



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**Matthew 19:3-8**

<sup>3</sup> The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, "**Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife [FOR EVERY CAUSE]?**"

<sup>7</sup> They said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away [FOR EVERY CAUSE]?"

<sup>8</sup> He said to them, "Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives [FOR EVERY CAUSE], but from the beginning it was not so.



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**Matthew 19:9**

<sup>9</sup> **[But] [δέ]** I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, **except for [fornication]**, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery."

## The Epistles & “the exception”

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Q: What if a Christian’s spouse becomes a fornicator (harlot)?

**1 Corinthians 6:15-16**

<sup>15</sup> 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 harlot?** Certainly not! <sup>16</sup> Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh."

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<sup>15</sup> 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 harlot?** Certainly not! <sup>16</sup> Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is **one body** with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become **one flesh**."

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**Temple prostitute?**

**"One night stand with prostitute?"**

**1 Corinthians 6:15-16**

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**"Harlot" = a wife gone bad**

**1 Corinthians 6:18**

<sup>18</sup> **Flee fornication.** Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits fornication sins against his own body.

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**"flee"** – "*run away from; escape; leave hastily.*"

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Jerry Cutter:

... "*Flee fornication.*" That means whether we're living with a fornicator or committing the act – whatever the case may be – it is to be fled from.

(Recorded sermon, about 1979)

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**Ephesians 5:28**

<sup>28</sup> So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; **he who loves his wife loves himself.**



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**Genesis 2:23**

<sup>23</sup> ... "This is now **bone of my bones**  
And **flesh of my flesh** ...

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<sup>18</sup> Flee fornication. **Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but** he who commits fornication sins against his own body.

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**Matthew 19:9**

<sup>9</sup> And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, **except for fornication**, and marries another, commits adultery; ..."

## CONCLUSION

- Messiah teaching a new law ⇒ does not violate the old law.
- OT prophecy ⇒ Messiah teaches new law.
- List NT legislation Jesus taught.
- OT ⇒ allowed divorce for every cause.
- The exception ⇒ repeated in the epistles.

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