

# THE "LIFE AND BIBLE" SERIES

Living Out Our Christianity *With An Attitude*

## COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 1:9-14

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### BEING A CHRISTIAN AND SURVIVING DIVORCE

*A SERIES ON DEVELOPING A PRACTICAL AND EFFECTIVE  
WALK WITH GOD AT ALL TIMES AND IN ALL SITUATIONS*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Discipleship, Divorce, Marriage, Grace, Forgiveness**

**Introduction to the Text;**

**Colossians 1:9-14**

#### Colossians 1:9-14

For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be **filled with the knowledge of His will** in **all wisdom and spiritual understanding**; :10 that you may **walk worthy of the Lord**, fully pleasing *Him*, **being fruitful in every good work** and **increasing in the knowledge of God**; :11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; :12 **giving thanks to the Father** who has **qualified us** to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. :13 He has delivered us **from the power of darkness** and **conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love**, :14 in whom we have **redemption** through His blood, even the **forgiveness** of sins.

#### If in these Series of Studies

a message can cause you to reconsider a divorce... The Only **Divorce** that Should be Taking Place in Our Lives, Is the **Divorcing** of our own agendas and the **Adoption** of God's perfect plan...

And an Overt Act of Obedience To His Word.

#### Matthew 7:20 - Luke 6:46

:20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them. :21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.... **Luke 6:46** "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?

**this has been my personal observation**

In **20** years of being a **pastor** and in **30** years of being **married** and In **33** years of being a **Christian** I have never heard yet someone say... *"I am so glad I got a divorce. Divorce has been a wonderful thing."* – but I do hear, *"we should have made it work"*

## AND WHAT AN ABORTION IS TO A CHILD, DIVORCE IS TO A MARRIAGE.

### Why?

Because marriage is a sacred, divine institution, It's a covenantal agreement, between God, a man and a woman as husband and wife and it works !

### Why?

#### Matthew 19:5-6

"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh"? :6 So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

Last Week We Looked at...

### BEING A CHRISTIAN IN THE MIDST OF A DIVORCE

- 1.) Seek every Biblical **directive** first
- 2.) Exhaust every opportunity to **reconcile**
- 3.) Avoid the counsel of **others**
- 4.) Never let emotions make your **decisions**
- 5.) Find a Christian friend to **intercede** with you

#### 2 Corinthians 5:20-21

Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. :21 For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

#### Ephesians 4:32

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

# BEING A CHRISTIAN AND SURVIVING A DIVORCE

## 1.) Healing – you will require time and effort to heal

let's be honest,  
divorce leaves a gaping hole in the heart.  
(each of them will display that pain in varying ways for the rest of their lives)

Human Desire Will Rival the Will of God

### 2 Corinthians 10:5

casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

### A Warning Here:

You must decide now if you're going to play the (victim card) the victim card sounds like this...  
*"she really hurt me."* *"he was cheating on me"* *"he never loved me"* *"I never loved him"*

those words can only make you feel better for about 60 seconds – that's why you have to keep repeating them...

### Step 1 - Get On With It

*Take the pain to Jesus and have a good cry.  
When you're done leave it with Him there.*

### 1 Peter 5:7

casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

### Psalms 107:20

He sent His word and healed them, And delivered *them* from their destructions.

Consume The Books of Psalms & Proverbs

# BEING A CHRISTIAN AND SURVIVING A DIVORCE

## 2.) Focusing – you will need to redirect your attention

a divorce just doesn't happen. It may feel like it does, but there were signs and indicators...

But Ever Since That News Came you've been emotionally ravaged

**Romans 12:17-19**

Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. :18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. :19 Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

**Redirect/focusing on defending your children**

(we must enter into the "momma bear" mode)

**if your spouse/the mom or dad is leaving the family**

you must do everything to protect your children. Use the law, lawfully to secure their future.

**1 Timothy 5:8**

But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

**focusing on doing what honors God**

**Proverbs 3:5-10**

**Trust in the LORD** with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; :6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. :7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; **Fear the LORD** and depart from evil. :8 It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones. :9 **Honor the LORD** with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; :10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.

**focusing on what's righteous and just**

**Isaiah 40:31**

They that wait upon the LORD Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

**what would be the reason(s) for remarrying?**

Fear of **being alone**. The fear of **missing out** on life.

The fear of not being **taken care of**...

Everything that a dynamic, engaging,  
useful Christian life can provide you...

There are so many wonderful Christians who,  
after they're divorced said... *"that's it Lord, it's just you and me now – so let's  
get this party started"*

**Ephesians 5:15-17**

See then that you walk **circumspectly**, not as fools but as wise, **:16 redeeming** the time, because the days are evil. **:17** Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what **the will of the Lord is.**

**BEING A CHRISTIAN AND SURVIVING A DIVORCE**

**3.) Strengthening – you will want to strengthen your life**

a divorced Christian must fight harder...  
**against** temptation as well as **resist** compromising situations.

Don't Go From the Fire - into the  
Frying Pan

**1 Corinthians 6:18-19**

Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. **:19** Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

Your strength needs to be **anchored** in a **deep** and **committed** personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

**2 Timothy 2:15**

**Study** to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. **:16** But **shun** profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

**Romans 10:17**

So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Make Every Effort to Build-Up Your "Ethos"

**Jude 20-21**

But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. **21** Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

**BEING A CHRISTIAN AND SURVIVING A DIVORCE**

**4.) Determining – you will make different decisions now**

**does the Lord even want you to marry again?**

(it's not important what you want – it's about what He wants)

**1 Corinthians 7:39**

A wife is bound by law as long as her husband lives; but if her husband dies, she is at liberty to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

**1 Corinthians 7:10-11**

Now to the married I command, yet not I but the Lord: A wife is not to depart from *her* husband :**11** But even if she does depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to *her* husband. **And a husband is not to divorce his wife.**

**2 Corinthians 6:14-16**

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? :**15**  
And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? :**16** And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God.

**Are you unhappy in your marriage?**

**Are you separated? (unbiblical)**

**Are you going thru a divorce?**

*Then stay away from where **singles** hang out – you're still married !*

*Then don't dress in a way to **get looks** – you're still married !*

*Then keep your **ring** on your finger – you're still married !*

# BEING A CHRISTIAN AND **SURVIVING A DIVORCE**

## **5.) Being – you will live a more dedicated life to God**

Have Some Respect for You – The Lord Does...

### **Romans 12:1-2**

I beseech (urge) you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. :2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may **prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**

### **Ephesians 5:15-17**

See then that you walk **circumspectly**, not as fools but as wise, :16 **redeeming** the time, because the days are evil. :17 Therefore do not be unwise, but **understand** what **the will of the Lord is.**

### **1 Thessalonians 4:3-7**

**For this is the will of God**, your **sanctification**: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; (sex outside of marriage) :4 that each of you should know how to **possess his own vessel** in **sanctification** and **honor**, :5 not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles (unbelievers) who do not know God; :6 that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother (sister – fellow Christian) in this matter, because the Lord *is* the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. :7 For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.

### **Hebrews 10:24-25**

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, :25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

### **Isaiah 54:3-6**

For you shall expand to the right and to the left, And your descendants will inherit the nations, And make the desolate cities inhabited. :4 “Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; Neither be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame; For you will forget the shame of your youth, And will not remember the reproach of your widowhood anymore. :5 For your Maker *is* your husband, The LORD of hosts *is* His name; And your Redeemer *is* the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth. :6 For the LORD has called you Like a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, Like a youthful wife when you were refused,” Says your God.

a time to pray...

end