

PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

1 CORINTHIANS 7:10-24

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-738 May 8, 2011

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“GOD, MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE”

THE DANGERS OF SPLITTING UP A HOME

How To Be A Church That's Out Of This World

Part Two

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Ministry, Servanthood, Marriage, Discipleship

Introduction to the Text:

1st Corinthians 7:10-24

Marriage is like a phone call in the night:
first the ring, and then you wake up

I don't worry about terrorism.
I was married for two years

Success in marriage does not come merely through finding the right mate,
but through being the right mate.

More marriages might survive if the partners realized that
sometimes the better comes after the worse.

**No One Has Any Business Getting Married Unless They Have At Least Been Told
That God was the Architect of Marriage, that God Has Given Man His Manual for
Marriage, and that God Honors Your Marriage.**

Genesis 2:21-24

So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. :22 Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. :23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." :24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

Mark 10:9

Therefore what God has **joined** together, let not man **separate**."

The Power of "Joining" & "Separating"

(if we do cause separation, we invite God's divine wrath upon us)

1 Corinthians 7:10-24

:10 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. :12 But to the rest I, not the Lord, say: If any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she is willing to live with him, let him not divorce her. :13 And a woman who has a husband who does not believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him. :14 For the unbelieving husband is **sanctified** by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is **sanctified** by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy. :15 But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under **bondage** in such cases. But God has called us to **peace** :16 For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save *your* husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save *your* wife? :17 But as God has **distributed** to each one, as the Lord has called each one, so let him **walk**. And so I **ordain** in all the churches. :18 Was anyone called while circumcised? Let him not become uncircumcised. Was anyone called while uncircumcised? Let him not be circumcised. :19 Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing, but keeping the **commandments** of God *is what matters*. :20 Let each one remain in the same calling in which he was called. :21 Were you called *while* a slave? Do not be concerned about it; but if you can be made free, rather use *it*. :22 For he who is called in the Lord *while* a slave is the Lord's freedman. Likewise he who is called *while* free is Christ's slave. :23 You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men. :24 Brethren, let each one remain with God in that *state* in which he was called.

GOD, MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

THE DANGERS OF SPLITTING UP A HOME

1.) Why is marriage such a big deal?

v.10-13

WHY IS MARRIAGE SUCH A BIG DEAL

1a.) It's a spiritual union designed by God

:10 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** (*the putting away*) *his* wife.

The LORD condemns Divorce – In Fact, He Hates it.
But Because of Mankind's Evil toward One Another – He has made
a Provision for Divorce.

There are situations that arise where a marriage is no longer possible.
Physical spousal abuse and/or a dangerous situation existing at home by threats. -
{Call the police. Then call the church.}

The “No-Wiggle-Room Clause” - the Apostle's Teaching.
In Fact – Paul brings to bear several times in this teaching
Applying his full apostolic authority.

If you're a Christian and you're seeking a divorce
from your spouse and you are either **unwilling** or **unable** to be reconciled,
then you must remain unmarried.

There's no grounds here for re-marriage,
using divorce as an out so that you can remarry.

Matthew 5:31-32

“Furthermore it has been said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ :32 **But I say to you** that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except **sexual immorality** causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced (*knowing about his/her sin*) commits adultery.

Malachi 2:14-16

Yet you say, “For what reason?” Because the LORD has been a 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**. (*the word of your promise*) :15 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. :16 “For the LORD God of Israel says That He **hates** (*is His enemy*) **putting away** (*divorce*),



treacherously *bagad, baw-gad’;*

a primitive root; to cover up or to hideaway, to rob, pillage, to abandon.

WHY IS MARRIAGE SUCH A BIG DEAL

1b.) It’s a ministry foundation dedicated to the other

12 But to the **rest** (*mixed marriages*) I, not the Lord, say: If any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she is willing to live with him, let him not divorce her.

“ I , not the Lord, say ”

(simply means Jesus didn’t talk about this exact situation while on earth.
The LORD revealed this to Paul as an Apostle of Christ)

Marriage is All About the Other Person

Make no mistake about this. This is not what’s being taught in churches today, that the apostles’ words are less in meaning.

Matthew 19:3-10

The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for *just* any reason?” :4 And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ :5 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*”? :6 So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has **joined together**, let not man separate.” :7 They said to Him, “Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?” :8 He said to them, “Moses, **because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted** you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. :9 And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.”:10 His disciples said to Him, “If such is the case of the man with *his* wife, it is better not to marry.”



hardness Grk: skl̓hrokardi÷a **sclerosis-kardia**

The hardening of the heart. Heartedness. The increasing stubbornness and perversity of the heart. An inability to move and flex and reshape.

The Original Greek Language Implies: The Layering of Unresolved Hurts, Unconfessed Sins. The Building Up of Bitterness which leads to an Un-Willingness to listen or hear.

Ephesians 4:26b-27

“do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath,
:27 nor give **place** to the devil.



place to/ποῖς **topos**, top´-os;

to quarter among you. a foothold. A spot, a space, a room or place of occupancy.

Hebrews 12:15

looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this **many** (*your spouse, the kids or extended family*) become defiled;

(every one of you – I am invoking my pastoral authority, I am beseeching you to begin attending **Wednesday night services** as we begin our series on **the 10 commandments**
Why? - - Teaching us what it means to Fear God in your life !)



permitted Grk: **epitrepo**, *ep-ee-trep'-o*;

to give up or to turn over. To suffer through. To transfer, to allow via tolerance

No, but rather - Since such *is the case* – don't rush into marriage. Make sure it's of the LORD. Count the costs. The decision is binding before God!

The roll of a Christian husband – is to 1st Be a Christian man
(you hold onto her and you fight for your marriage cuz you're a Jesus-man)

WHY IS MARRIAGE SUCH A BIG DEAL

1c.) It's a physical witness displayed before the world

13 And a woman who has a husband who does not believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him.

There is no doubt whatsoever;
Marriage is the most **private** & the most **public** relationship known to man.

But In The Context of Being Married to a Non-Christian

1 Peter 3:1

Wives, likewise, *be* **submissive** to your own husbands, *that even if some do not obey the word*, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,

GOD, MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

THE DANGERS OF SPLITTING UP A HOME

2.) Why is marriage under attack today?

v.14-17

WHY IS MARRIAGE UNDER ATTACK TODAY

2a.) Marriage is God's ultimate calling for a family

14 For the unbelieving husband is **sanctified** by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is **sanctified** by the husband; otherwise your children would be **unclean**, but now they are **holy**.

Some of the Corinthians were married when they had become a Christian - but not their spouses. So this created issues...

👉 **sanctified** αἱγιαζω **hagiazō**, *hag-ee-ad'-zo*;
to make special, set apart; protected, blessed, covered, graced

Hebrews 13:4

Marriage is honorable **among all**, (believer and nonbeliever) and the **bed** undefiled; - but **fornicators** and **adulterers** God will judge.

1. **Fornication** ruins the chances of having a healthy family.
2. **Adultery** destroys, separates, pulls apart the family

The Husband / Father is to Act like his King – Kings Jesus.

Ephesians 5:25-27

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, :26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, :27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

Ephesians 6:4

And you, fathers, do not **provoke** (exasperate, frustrate, mock,) your children to wrath, **but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.**

WHY IS MARRIAGE UNDER ATTACK TODAY

2b.) Marriage is God's chief setting for peace

15 But if the unbeliever departs, let him (*she*) depart; a brother or a sister is not under **bondage** in such cases. But God has called us to **peace**

The Lord has delivered the Christian from
a Life of Self-Decay.

James 4:1

Where do wars and fights *come* from among you? Do *they* not *come* from your *desires* for pleasure

James 3:14-17

But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. :15 Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. :16 For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. :17 But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

A brother or a sister is not under **bondage** in such cases

If the non-Christian can't cope with your new found faith in Jesus and cannot stand looking at the reflection of Jesus in your face and says, “**I can't stand this Jesus stuff in your life and I'm leaving... “Let the guy depart, let him leave.”**”

This is a Heart-Breaking Situation



bondage δουλο/w **doulou**, doo-lo'-o;
no longer tied to; enslave, a servant of.

WHY IS MARRIAGE UNDER ATTACK TODAY

2c.) Marriage is God's primary mission field

16 For how do you know, O wife, whether - you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether - you will save your wife? :17 But as God has **distributed** to each one, as the Lord has called each one, so let him **walk**. And so I **ordain** in all the churches.

Technically, Verse 16 is a supporting argument to Verse 15

“When all else has failed and the non-Christian wife or husband desires to end the marriage, **release him or her to their world – holding on to them will not save them**”

Each of us, (non-Christians as well) have been given/allowed free-will choices, yet the Lord is at work in your life.

“Leave” Them a Godly Example – As you “Grant” them departure

It's been obvious from the beginning

that Satan hates marriage. He fears what could come from a godly marriage. He's terrified of the witness and impact that a marriage can have on a culture. A godly marriage can build a nation...

In Christianity, Divorce Should Be a Very Rare Thing.

Last Week – After Each of the Services I Heard Amazing Things – In Some of the Cases, **God was allowed in to do His thing.**

GOD, MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

THE DANGERS OF SPLITTING UP A HOME

3.) Why is marriage not for everybody?

v.18-24

WHY IS MARRIAGE NOT FOR EVERYONE

3a.) The Lord gives what's best to you

18 Was anyone called while **circumcised**? Let him not become **uncircumcised**. Was anyone called while **uncircumcised**? Let him not be **circumcised**.

:19 Circumcision is nothing and **uncircumcision** is nothing, but keeping the **commandments** of God is what matters.

Outwardness doesn't matter to God. It's not becoming (circumcised) or to become (uncircumcised). It's not becoming a slave or a freeman. If you're tattooed, don't worry about it now – you can't change it.

“My Marriage Stinks” – Well I'm Sorry about that,
But you must make your marriage work

Ephesians 5:21-26

submitting to one another in the fear of God. **:22 ¶** Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. **:23** For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. **:24** Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in everything.

WHY IS MARRIAGE NOT FOR EVERYONE

3b.) The Lord knows what's best for you

:20 Let each one **remain** in the same calling in which he was called. :21 Were you called while a **slave**? Do not be concerned about it; but if you can be made free, rather use it. :22 For he who is called in the Lord while a slave is the Lord's **freedman**. Likewise he who is called while free is Christ's **slave**.

Now That You're a Christian First;
Be the best at what you are and what you do...

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. :6 "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart . :7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. :8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. :9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

WHY IS MARRIAGE NOT FOR EVERYONE

3c.) The Lord places what's best before you

23 You were **bought at a price**; do not become slaves of men. :24 Brethren, let each one (**remain** *(abide, dwell, reside)* with God) in that **state** in which he was called.

Here's The Grand Summation; "You were **bought at a price**"

Every Man has the God-given Power to Create a Woman or a Wife.
- Listen - by **What** He Says and **How** He Treats Her. It Makes No Difference if She's a Wife or Daughter – **He's Got that Power**.

:24 Christians, let each one (**remain** *(abide, dwell, reside)* with God) in that **state** in which he was called.

Are you currently single – Are you Currently married?:
(don't come to me later and ask me about separation. Separation is not biblical.
Attorneys created separation which nearly always leads to divorce)

Abiding With God is to be The Sole-Absolute Priority of Our Lives.

Abiding Begins with Repentance. - If you sinned against God and Marriage out of Ignorance - ask the Lord for forgiveness.

Abiding Stays with Consistence. – Make your Christianity work in your life. Without that happening – you're most likely not even a Christian and you're lost.

Abiding Grows with Obedience. – Obeying God is the best, most wonderful, exciting, liberating, and empowering thing you can do every day.

John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. :2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. :3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. :4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. :5 "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. :6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned. :7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. :8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

2 Corinthians 5:17-18

Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. :18 Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

End of Study

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