

Divorce Proofing Your Marriage

I. Introduction.

- A. What is the Big "D" for married couples?
- B. How many have sinned?
- C. Why do people get divorced today?
- D. Let's go to the Lord in prayer for those who have most closely been touched by divorce.

II. Scripture.

- A. **Mal. 2:16**—"For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that He *hateth putting away [divorce]: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore, take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.*" How does God feel about divorce?
- B. **Mat. 1:18-19**—"18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily." Is it possible for someone to be righteous and divorce their spouse?
- C. **Mat. 5:31-32**—"31 It hath been said, 'Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement:' 32 But I say unto you, 'That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.'" What reason does Jesus say permits a divorce?
- D. What are 5 main aspects of the **context** surrounding Jesus' teaching on Divorce (before and after **Mat. 19:1-12**)?
 - 1. **Mat. 18:15-18.**
 - 2. **Mat. 18:19-20.**

3. *Mat. 18:21-35.*

4. *Mat. 19:1-2.*

5. *Mat. 19:13-15.*

E. *Mat. 19:3-12*—³*The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, 'Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?' ⁴And He answered and said unto them, 'Have ye not read, that He which made them at the beginning made them male and female,' ⁵And said, 'For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? ⁶Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.'* ⁷*They say unto Him, 'Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?' ⁸He saith unto them, 'Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.'* ⁹*And I say unto you, 'Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.'* ¹⁰*His disciples say unto him, 'If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry.'* ¹¹*But he said unto them, 'All men cannot receive this saying, save they to whom it is given. ¹²For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb: and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it.'"*

III. Application.

A. What are some practical applications for marriage?

B. God's original and ideal plan for marriage is only **1 man** and only _____ for life.

C. How to **Divorce-Proof your marriage?** (Some practical questions and suggestions.)

1. What do you do if you feel like your marriage situation should be another legitimate exception for divorce?
2. What do you do when you think your spouse is possessed (**Mat. 17:21**)?
3. How can you be 100% committed to your spouse?
4. What type of person do you like to live with?
5. What is the #1 saved or unsaved answer on how to divorce proof your marriage?
6. How do you grow together in marriage?
7. What are your additional thoughts and practical ways?