

*“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).*

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## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT DIVORCE

*J.P. Edwards*

It's time that we start listening to and accepting what the Bible has to say about divorce, rather than accepting the theories proposed by men. The Bible says...

### **DIVORCE, GOD HATES.**

The prophet Malachi reminded Israel that the Lord God *“hateth putting away”* or divorce (Mal. 2:16).

**DIVORCE WAS NOT PART OF GOD'S PLAN FROM THE BEGINNING.** Jesus, in answering the Pharisees' question, *“Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?”* (Mt. 19:3), pointed to God's law at the beginning (Mt. 19:8). God, at the beginning, created one woman for one man and a man and his wife became one flesh as a result of God's joining them together in marriage (Gen. 2:18-24).

**DIVORCE WAS PERMITTED BY MOSES.** Jesus said that *“Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives...”* (Mt. 19:8). Divorce was tolerated by Moses, even though God did not approve.

**DIVORCE IS NOT LAWFUL GENERALLY.** The Lord's teaching is clear, *“...What God*

*hath joined together, let not man put asunder”* (Mt. 19:6). The Pharisees were asking, *“Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?”* (Mt. 19:3). The Lord prohibits divorce for every cause, whether there is remarriage or not.

**DIVORCE IS LAWFUL FOR FORNICATION.** Matthew 5:32 and Matthew 19:9 state the one lawful exception for divorce — fornication. God's law is silent about other causes.

**DIVORCE, FOR OTHER THAN FORNICATION, AND REMARRIAGE IS ADULTERY.** When one divorces their marriage partner for some cause other than fornication, while they are not guilty of adultery until they remarry, they are guilty of the sin of divorce or putting away for an unscriptural cause (Mt. 19:9).

**DIVORCE, EXCEPT FOR FORNICATION, CAUSES ADULTERY.** When one divorces their marriage partner for any reason other than fornication, it causes adultery by unjustly putting away their partner in a position where they will commit adultery if they remarry (Mt. 5:32).

**DIVORCE, DON'T DO IT FOR EVERY CAUSE.** Paul forbade divorce for every cause when he said, *“...Let not the wife depart from her husband...*

*and let not the husband put away his wife”* (1 Cor. 7:10-11).

## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT REMARRIAGE

*Johnie Edwards*

A study of remarriage can better be understood by understanding who has the right to marry. Thus, who may marry?

**PERSONS NEVER MARRIED.** Paul wrote, *“...to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband”* (1 Cor. 7:2). God said concerning the first marriage, *“...for this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh”* (Mt. 19:5).

**PERSONS MARRIED.** If two people get a divorce, they surely can be married to each other again. The Corinthians were told concerning a couple who had been married to each other, *“But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband...”* (1 Cor. 7:11). Nothing is said of these persons having the right to marry someone else, but they can remarry one another.

**PERSONS WHOSE MATE IS DEAD.** In teaching about the law

of Moses, Paul wrote the Romans, *“For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man”* (Rom. 7:2-3). So a person whose spouse is dead has the right to remarriage, provided they marry one who has the right to marry!

**PERSONS WHO PUT FORNICATING MATES AWAY.**

The Pharisees asked Jesus about one putting away their spouse. They asked, *“...Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?”* (Mt. 19:3). Jesus answered by reminding them of God’s law when He instituted marriage at the beginning (Gen. 2:18-24). The Pharisees then asked another question: *“Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?”* (Mt. 19:7). Jesus answered by stating that *“Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered*

*you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so”* (Mt. 19:8). Jesus told the Pharisees what God’s law concerning marriage and divorce was at the beginning and during the law of Moses. Now He sets forth what the regulations will be in the New Testament era, as He said, *“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”* (Mt. 19:9). One who puts away their spouse for any reason other than fornication and marries another commits adultery. The innocent one can remarry.

**THE PLACE OF THE MAN IN THE HOME**

*John Edwards*

This article is a look at the place of the man in the home as revealed on the pages of divine inspiration.

**TO HEAD UP THE HOME.**

The apostle Paul stated, *“For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head*

*of the church...”* (Eph. 5:23). Many homes are headed by the woman, or the children. God would have the home with a man who *“...will command his children and his household...”* (Gen. 18:19).

**TO LOVE HIS WIFE.** Very few men today love their wives as they should! Paul wrote, *“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it”* (Eph. 5:25). The man ought to love his wife so much that he would be willing to give his life for her. The apostle further declared, *“So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies...”* (Eph. 5:28).

**TO BE THE PROVIDER.**

Paul proclaimed, *“But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel”* (1 Tim. 5:8). A lot of men today are too lazy to provide.

**TO BRING HIS CHILDREN UP RIGHT.** Paul urged fathers, *“...provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord”* (Eph. 6:4). What a tremendous responsibility!

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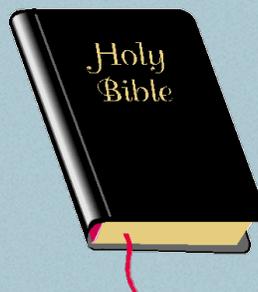
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