

## Seven Principles of Divorce and Remarriage

1. Marriage is the sacred union between one man and one woman and God's intention is for marriage to last a lifetime.
2. Divorce is not always sinful.
3. Divorce is permitted, but not required, on the ground of sexual immorality.
4. Divorce is permitted, but not required, on the ground of desertion by an unbelieving spouse.
5. When the divorce was not permissible, any subsequent remarriage (to someone other than the original spouse) results in adultery.
6. In situations where the divorce was permissible, remarriage is also permissible.
7. Improperly divorced and remarried Christians should stay as they are, but repent and be forgiven of their past sins and make whatever amends are necessary.

Taken from "A Sermon on Divorce and Remarriage" by Kevin DeYoung, 11/3/10, <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/kevin-deyoung/a-sermon-on-divorce-and-remarriage/>



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Mark 10:1-12

April 19, 2020  
English Standard Version

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## *“Jesus and Divorce”*

The 29th Sermon in a series on The Gospel of Mark entitled  
*“The King and His Cross”*

### **Mark 10:1-12**

*“And He left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to Him again. And again, as was His custom, He taught them. <sup>2</sup> And Pharisees came up and in order to test Him asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” <sup>3</sup> He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” <sup>4</sup> They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away.” <sup>5</sup> And Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. <sup>6</sup> But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ <sup>7</sup> ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, <sup>8</sup> and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. <sup>9</sup> What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”*

*<sup>10</sup> And in the house the disciples asked Him again about this matter. <sup>11</sup> And He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and*

*marries another commits adultery against her,<sup>12</sup> and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”*

**INTRODUCTION: *What are you choosing?***<sup>1</sup>

**BACKGROUND: *Significant Challenges***<sup>2</sup>

**v. 1-2: A QUESTION OF \_\_\_\_\_**

*“And He left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to Him again. And again, as was His custom, He taught them.<sup>2</sup> And Pharisees came up and in order to test Him asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?”*

**Matthew 19:3,** *“Is it lawful to divorce one’s wife for any cause?”*

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<sup>1</sup> The introduction is adapted from the sermon, “*What Are Real Marriages Made Of?*” found in *What It Means to be Real* by Dr. Stuart Briscoe, reprinted at [www.preaching.com](http://www.preaching.com).

<sup>2</sup> The Background and Exposition of the text is adapted from my sermons, “*What Jesus said about the Law*” 6/30/02, and “*Family in the Kingdom*” 3/9/14, both preached here at Potomac Hills. And the sermons, “*What Did Jesus Think of Divorce and Remarriage*” by Dr. Kevin DeYoung, Senior Pastor of Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church, Matthews, NC preached when Senior Pastor of University Reformed Church, East Lansing, MI, 10/24/10, [www.universityreformedchurch.org](http://www.universityreformedchurch.org), reprinted at [www.thegospelcoalition.org](http://www.thegospelcoalition.org); “*The Kingdom and Marriage*” by Dr. J. Ligon Duncan III, Chancellor, Reformed Theological Seminary, preached when Senior Minister at First Presbyterian Church (PCA), Jackson, MS, 12/27/98, [www.fpcjackson.org](http://www.fpcjackson.org). And the book, *Lent for Everyone: Mark, Year B* by Dr. N.T. Wright, pages 94-97.

For further study I recommend **Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage: Critical Questions and Answers** by Dr. Jim Newheiser.

**v. 3, 6-9: A QUESTION OF \_\_\_\_\_**

*<sup>3</sup> He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ... <sup>6</sup> But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’<sup>7</sup> ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife,<sup>8</sup> and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh.<sup>9</sup> What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”*

**v. 4-5, 10-12: THE QUESTION OF \_\_\_\_\_**

*<sup>4</sup> They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away.”<sup>5</sup> And Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. ... <sup>10</sup> And in the house **the disciples asked Him again** about this matter.<sup>11</sup> And He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her,<sup>12</sup> and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”*

**APPLICATION: *What about us?***

**CONCLUSION: *The Real Question***