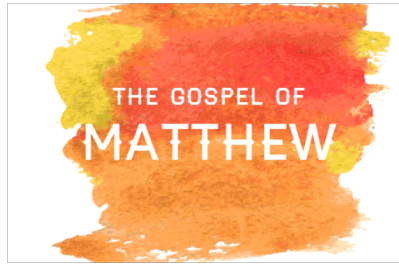


# Disciple's Quest

*If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine.*

John 8:31



January 20, 2019

Jesus Teaching on Marriage and Divorce

Matthew 19:1-12

## Main Idea:

Jesus exposes the prevailing view of the Pharisees that divorce could be “for any reason at all” as biblically inaccurate and sinful. Rather, designed and ordained by God, marriage is to be cherished and nurtured according to God’s instructions.

## Outline:

6 points to help us understand Jesus’ teaching on marriage and divorce.

1) The Time

2) The Terrorists

3) The Testing

4) The Turnabout

5) The Teaching

- 2 points that define and govern the institution of marriage:
  - Jesus LIMITS marriage to one man and one woman
  - Jesus EXPLAINS that the purpose of marriage is for the man and woman to become one indivisible unity.

- 2 corrections of the Pharisees' mistaken thinking about divorce:
  - Divorce is a product of man's sin
  - God did not command divorce in the Law, he merely permitted it
  
- Divorce may be permissible (and even necessary) for believer, but only for 2 reasons:
  - Unrepentant, serious sexual immorality of a spouse
  - Abandonment of the marriage by an unbelieving spouse
  
- When singleness is right for a believer

6) Three take-aways:

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**Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:**

- 1) How would you counsel a professing believer who argues in favor of "gay marriage"?
  - What Scripture passages would you share with him to make your case?
  
- 2) Why is the idea of "no-fault divorce" so popular within secular culture? Include in your answer the particular sins that make the idea of "disposable marriage" attractive.
  
- 3) Believers should nurture marriage according to the instructions God has given us in Scripture. Read Ephesians 5, focusing on v.v. 22-33. What marriage-nurturing instructions can you identify?
  
- 4) How does marriage picture the relationship between Christ and His church?

**Select helpful resources:**

Carson, D.A. *Matthew Vol.2 (Ch 13 –28), The Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.  
 Grace Community Church Distinctive, *Divorce and Remarriage*, <https://gty.org/library/print/articles/DD04>  
 MacArthur, John F. *Matthew 16 – 23*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 1988.  
 Morris, Leon. *The Gospel According to Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.  
 Toussant, Stanley. *Behold the King – A Study of Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1980.  
 Turner, David L. *Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.