



**Introduction:** I want to have a Word with you about \_\_\_\_\_.

What is your take on divorce?

### Divorce Statistics

Is divorce something that Kingdom Citizens should do?

**My take is simple – it’s biblical:** Marriage is between a man and a woman for life. It is until \_\_\_\_\_ do you part. Marriage is a Covenant relationship – not a contract, and the only thing that can end a Covenant is **death**.

- Malachi 2:14
- Malachi 2:16

So, then, what do we need to learn in this chapter about divorce?

#### I. What the \_\_\_\_\_ Testament taught about Divorce – 5:31

31 *“Furthermore it has been said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’*

## Key O.T. Passage - Deuteronomy 24:1-4

Matthew 19:8 - *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.*

### Two Schools of Thoughts about Divorce

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – He taught that it was permissible for a husband to divorce his wife for any reason at all.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ – He taught that divorce was permissible only for a major offense.

### A Third View – The Right One

\_\_\_\_\_ – He taught that marriage is sacred and viewed by God as an indissoluble unit and should not be terminated by divorce.

### II. What Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ about Divorce – 5:32

*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 commits adultery.*

Here is what Jesus taught about divorce:

1. **Jesus taught that you \_\_\_\_\_ divorce for just any reason:**

The possible reasons a man may wish to divorce his wife:

2. **Jesus taught that there is only \_\_\_\_\_ reason for divorce:**

What is the only reason for divorce? It is what many Bible teachers refer to as the “exception clause”. What is it? It is,

\_\_\_\_\_ **immorality** – which means, sexual unfaithfulness.

Bible teachers view the “exception clause” in one of four ways. Such as:

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ act of adultery.
2. Unfaithfulness during the period of \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 1:19).
3. Marriage between near \_\_\_\_\_ (Leviticus 18:6-18).
4. Continued \_\_\_\_\_ .[iv]

Jesus tells us very clearly and in a manner that we cannot mistake that the only reason for a man to divorce his wife is if she had \_\_\_\_\_ sexual immorality.

### **A Second Exception Clause**

I might make mention that when Paul writes about marriage in 1 Corinthians 7, he names \_\_\_\_\_ as a second exception for divorce. If an unbelieving spouse deserts a believing spouse, there are grounds for divorce. The believing spouse is free to remarry.

### **3. Jesus taught that \_\_\_\_\_ divorce leads to adultery:**

Jesus also taught that if a man divorces his wife for any reason (excluding sexual immorality), he becomes the \_\_\_\_\_ of his wife committing adultery.

And not only that, but Jesus went on to say that if a man marries a woman that has been divorced illegitimately, he too has committed \_\_\_\_\_. Why? Because there were no biblical grounds for the divorce.

Vernon McGee wrote, “If someone is divorced for a reason not given in Scripture, that person is an \_\_\_\_\_-.”

What should you do if someone in your marriage has committed adultery?  
You have two options:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **from the offending spouse.**

Why?

2. \_\_\_\_\_ **from the offending spouse.**

**Conclusion:** So, here is what Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ us about Divorce and Kingdom Citizens:

1. Marriage is \_\_\_\_\_ and divorce should not be an option.
2. You cannot divorce for just any \_\_\_\_\_. No fault divorce is shattered here.
3. Divorce was \_\_\_\_\_ in the Old Testament because of the \_\_\_\_\_ of man's heart. *But from the beginning it was not so*(Matthew 19:8).
4. Divorce is permissible only for \_\_\_\_\_, which is adultery.
5. Unbiblical divorce leads to \_\_\_\_\_ – which is a sin.

Now, what should you do if you ever find yourself in a marriage where your spouse has cheated on you?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ from the offending party. Wait for genuine biblical repentance (2 Corinthians 7:9-11).

2. \_\_\_\_\_ the offending spouse. You must not stay with someone who refuses to admit, confess, repent, and forsake their adultery.