

LOVE LESSONS

from The King.

A SERIES ON MARRIAGE



The background of the image is a close-up, high-resolution shot of numerous red rose petals. The petals are in various stages of bloom, creating a dense, layered texture. The color is a deep, vibrant red, with some darker shadows and lighter highlights on the edges of the petals, giving it a three-dimensional appearance.

DIVORCE & REMARRIAGE

Divorce & Remarriage

- It can be hard to set aside your emotions and previous thinking, and look honestly & openly at what the Word of God actually says.
- Help & healing.
- Our heart is to honor God, and rightly divide the Word of God.

Divorce

- To many, it seems to be the unpardonable sin.
- Saying that the Cross isn't complete.
- Saying that you can put a stain in your garment that the blood of Jesus can't wash out.

Divorce

- 2 Cor. 5:17 – If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation. The former things have passed away; all things have become new.
- 1 John 1:9 – If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive them, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

God: “I hate divorce.”

- Mal. 2:16 – “And I hate people who do cruel things as easily as they put on clothes.”
- Prov. 20:23 – Deception & dishonest are an abomination to Him.
- Prov. 17:25 – Hates those who defend the guilty.
- Prov. 12:22 – Detests lying lips.

God: “I hate divorce.”

- Prov. 6:16-19 – “There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies, and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.”

God Himself divorced.

- Jer. 3:8-10 – I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away, because of all her adulteries. Yet I saw that her unfaithful sister Judah had no fear; she also went out and committed adultery.

Matthew 12:31

And so I tell you, every kind of sin and slander can be forgiven, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.

Divorce

- God didn't institute it, but He does regulate it.
- Under some circumstances, divorce is proper.

Balanced Biblical View

1. Hate all of the things that God hates about divorce.
2. Recognize that in this sinful world, there are going to be situations in which it may be necessary to obtain a divorce.
3. Be clear that those who wrongly, sinfully (on other than biblical grounds) obtain a divorce, need to recognize and repent of their sin.

- Deut. 24 – Adultery
- Ex. 21 – Food, Clothing, Sexual love (Abandonment)

Balanced Biblical View

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2. Recognize that in this sinful world, there are going to be situations in which it may be necessary to obtain a divorce.
3. Be clear that those who wrongly, sinfully (on other than biblical grounds) obtain a divorce, need to recognize and repent of their sin.
4. Understand that precisely because it's a sin, it's forgivable.

Matthew 19:3

Some Pharisees came to Him to test Him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?”

Matthew 19:4-6

Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no man separate.

Matthew 19:7

Why then did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?

Matthew 19:8

Because of the hardness of your heart, Moses permitted you to divorce your wives. But from the beginning, it was not this way.

Judgment

- An application of the Law to a specific set of circumstances.

Deuteronomy 24:1

When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecent in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out from his house...

Matthew 19:8-9

Jesus replied, “Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because of the hardness of your hearts. I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.”

- porneia = pre-marital sex, homosexuality, adultery

1 Corinthians 7

- v. 2-6 – importance of intimacy in a marriage
- v. 7 – only some have the gift of celibacy
- v. 9 – all others (incl. unmarried & widows) need to marry

1 Corinthians 7

- v. 10 – “To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord)...”
- v. 12 – “To the rest I (not the Lord) say...”
 - In v. 10-11 – I’m repeating the clear teachings of Jesus.
 - In v. 12-16 – I’m dealing with an issue that Jesus didn’t speak to.

1 Corinthians 7

- He's speaking to 2 different groups of people.
- In v. 10-11, he's speaking to born-again believers married to born-again believers.
- In v. 12-16, he's speaking to born-again believers married to unbelievers.

1 Corinthians 7:10-11

To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

- chorizo = separated by divorce
- If you've been divorced – other than for adultery or abandonment:
 - Reconcile with your previous spouse.
 - Stay unmarried, giving time for the possibility of reconciliation.

1 Corinthians 7:12-15

But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he must not divorce her. And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, she must not send her husband away. For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy. Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, but God has called us to peace.

1 Corinthians 7:12-15

- The believer must not divorce his unbelieving spouse, if the spouse is willing to make a go of their marriage.
- But if after the believer has done all they can, the unbelieving spouse doesn't want to continue their marriage, divorce is an acceptable alternative.

1 Corinthians 7:15

Under these circumstances the brother or sister is not bound.

- They are free from the marriage.
- And like the one whose marriage was dissolved because of adultery or abandonment, they are now free to marry again.

1 Corinthians 7:15

- “God has called us to peace.”

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