

BIBLE TALK



Mike King-Minister

Question: If a person divorces their mate without scriptural reasons, can they marry again without living in adultery?

Answer: The only reason advanced in the scripture for divorce, other than death (Rom. 7:1-3), is adultery and if the marriage is "*put asunder*" for any other reason, the rights to remarriage are waived. Baptism does not remove the guilt for divorce for any cause. In most cases, it could be considered willful and Pre-meditated, which sin

God will not forgive (Heb. 10:25-27). God's marriage & divorce laws pertain to all people. He uses the term, "*whoever*" meaning anyone and everyone (Mt. 19:9). If one "*divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality (fornication), and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery*" (Mt. 19:9). God did not like divorce (putting away) from the beginning (Mal. 2:16), but gave a writing of divorcement because of the hardness of their hearts (Mt. 19:8). These principles apply to either gender.

In becoming a Christian, instructions are to repent, meaning to "turn" or "stop" the behavior. When living with a person to whom one is not entitled scripturally, he commits (keeps on committing) adultery and makes the one to whom he marries equally guilty (Mt. 5:32, 33). Repentance is more than saying "I am sorry!" That sorrow must lead to repenting or coming out of the damnable relationship (2 Cor. 7:10). Remorse is critical, but ceasing the sin even more!

Before entering into a relationship where there is a previous marital history, serious study of the scriptures should be made and not be directed by one's emotions, desires or needs for personal fulfillment at the time.

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