

## Chapter 1 : Divorce and Remarriage: Why Didn't We See This Before? - Biblical Research Reports

*The broader biblical understanding of marriage, divorce, and remarriage --The specific biblical teachings on divorce and remarriage --The ruling New Testament ethic of grace applied to divorce and remarriage.*

Can sinners be forgiven? Can runaways come home? Can crooks get a second chance? Can the broken be made whole? Of course divorced people can remarry! These questions are only tough because religion has told us that divorced people are unforgiveable sinners. As long as they sit quietly and help with our programs, they are welcome. They had their shot at love and they messed up. What a graceless thing to say! I cannot imagine anything further from the heart of Christ than telling someone they cannot experience love, that they are bound by the mistakes of their past and they have no future. The two Pharisees There are two sour-faced Pharisees stalking the modern church. The first one is called Against Divorce and the second is called Against Remarriage. The first one loves to quote 1 Corinthians 7: Do not seek a divorce. God hates divorce Mal 2: But some have turned this exhortation into a law. Thus it hurts the church two ways; by stirring up sin and then condemning the sinner. If you take these words as law, you must be consistent and preach the whole verse: Do not look for a wife. If divorced people are sinning, then so are those who get married. Obviously that is not what the apostle of grace is saying. The hand grenade of divorce Divorce is something to avoid, if you can. In our marriage, Camilla and I decided years ago that we would never say the word divorce, not even in jest. This is not a law for us, just a healthy choice. There are situations where abusive marriages, for instance where it could be appropriate to use the word. To say the word divorce during an argument is like pulling out a hand grenade. Fear of the hand grenade will kill your marriage. How can you be open and honest about your differences when you fear your partner pulling the pin? Paul is saying keep the hand grenade out of your marriage. Look for Jesus instead. But the fact is some people get divorced and sometimes for very legitimate reasons. Enter the second Pharisee. There can be no possibility of remarriage except to the original spouse. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. If that which has been broken can be put back together, then wonderful. What if the man is a violent abuser? What if the other partner has remarried and now has 14 kids? What if there is zero chance of remarriage? Divorced people are sometimes treated like second-class citizens. Religion vs reality It boggles my mind how we treat some people in the church. A sinner gets saved and we embrace him as a brother. A pastor commits adultery and we work hard to restore him. The pastor and the sinner both repented and were forgiven. When Jesus went to the cross he carried the sins of the whole world 1 John 2: No person and no sin were excluded from his sacrificial work. This is why we preach unconditional forgiveness. There is nothing you can do to make God love you more and nothing you can do to make him love you less. If there is an unforgiveable sin, it is not divorce. So to the married, I say this: Only a fool would exchange heavenly treasure marriage for earthly junk illicit intimacy. And to the divorced, I say this: You are not an unforgiven sinner! God is for marriage and against divorce, but more than that he is for you. You are precious to your Father. He loves you and is pleased with you. Your marital status does not affect his great love for you one little bit. By the grace of God you can. He knows you better than you know yourself and he will lead you in the path of life. But with God on your side, you cannot lose Rom 8: Now I want to hear from you, especially if you are divorced. Have you experienced grace or ungrace in the church? Give us your suggestions for how the church can do a better job of relating to divorced people. No spam, we promise.

**Chapter 2 : Is remarriage after divorce always adultery?**

*Remarriage and God's Renewing Grace: A Positive Biblical Ethic for Divorced Christians [Dwight Hervey Small] on blog.quintoapp.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Book by Small, Dwight Hervey.*

Jesus made this statement: Is the adultery a one time act, or is it an ongoing state of living in adultery? Adultery is a serious sin. God tells us a number of times in the New Testament that an unrepentant adulterer will not go to heaven. The subject of divorce and remarriage has the potential to be a deciding factor of eternal life or death – Heaven or Hell for someone. Therefore, divorce and remarriage is a subject of utmost importance for us to understand exactly what God has to say about it. Eternity in hell is too long to risk putting faith in the opinions and reasoning of others. We need to know what the truth is, and what God says is right and wrong. Divorce and remarriage is a significant subject which many people, as well as the church, face. Many marriages are being severed by divorce. Today, the divorce rate is no different in the church than among the ungodly. Everyone has an opinion about it, and everyone is entitled to hold an opinion about divorce and remarriage. However, the personal opinions and human reasonings that others share tend to obscure what God says about divorce and remarriage. This is particularly true when a line of reasoning that is in error is stated by a number of well respected, highly educated Christian sources. When error is repeated as truth, the number of people who believe it to be truth increases. We need to be like the Bereans and search the Bible for ourselves to see if what is being confidently stated as truth is truth. As I have checked out things that I have read or heard, I have found a lot of error being stated as truth in the church. People who I highly respected had not done the careful research that I thought they had. I also found that often they were relying on the writings of others rather than a careful study of the Bible. The subject of divorce and remarriage has not been exhaustively studied in the Bible, even though it has been extensively studied and written about. The Bible is a rich gold mine of spiritual truth and there is even more to be learned. In fact I am still learning more as more and more of the puzzle pieces are revealed. But in the last book of the Old Testament God made it clear that He hates divorce. God says in Malachi 2: He said that he did not receive the worship of a person who had divorced their spouse. Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: Divorce and Remarriage are separate events and therefore are two separate, although related items for discussion. Many people view divorce and remarriage as one and the same for purposes of discussion. For instance, the assumption is often made that if a person living in a remarriage situation cannot be accepted as a member in the church, then a person who is divorced is not able to be able to be a member in the church either. When divorce and remarriage are viewed as one and the same, it significantly hinders one from understanding what God says about both divorce and remarriage. The assumption is often made that divorce makes a person single again and that remarriage is the purpose of divorce. Because remarriage is viewed as the purpose for divorce, they view divorce and remarriage as one and the same: However, this is not the case according to Scripture. We will see that according to Scripture, divorce and remarriage need to be viewed as two separate events, and therefore as two separate, although related, items for discussion. God makes the man and woman one Marriage is more than a marriage certificate from the civil government. In marriage, God makes the man and the woman one. God says about the being made one aspect in Malachi 2: Yet had he the residue of the spirit. That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. A couple may go to the church to get married, but they have to go to the civil government to get a divorce. The Church cannot grant a legal divorce. According to Jesus, a marriage cannot be ended by the legal proceedings of the court. There will be more on this later. What is the Act or Action that is Adultery in Remarriage? Jesus makes it clear that adultery occurs in remarriage. This is stated in the following passages: And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery. Jesus said that for a man to desire in his mind to have sexual relations with another woman, that man commits adultery in his heart. Adultery is not divorce, adulterating the marriage, nor the one time act of remarriage. Therefore, adultery is the sexual

relations of the divorced and remarried couple the first time, and every time thereafter. Why divorce is not adultery Divorce is a serious act of defilement against the spirit and every other aspect of the marriage. But nowhere in the Bible does God define divorce as being adultery. There is no definition in any dictionary or Greek lexicon that says that the action of defiling the marriage is adultery. Adultery is voluntary sexual intercourse, either mentally or physically, where at least one of those involved is married to someone else. Defilement of a marriage is a consequence of adultery. But neither defiling a marriage nor divorce is adultery. Jesus makes it clear that adultery occurs in remarriage, not in divorce. What is significant about adultery in remarriage? When Jesus made that statement, He was stating that divorce does not end the first marriage. People have always assumed that divorce ends the first marriage, but Jesus said that it is not true. The sin of adultery can only occur if one or both of the persons involved is married. If neither of the persons are married the term adultery cannot be used because adultery is the voluntary sexual intercourse between a married man and someone other than his wife or between a married woman and someone other than her husband. What Jesus was saying is that divorce does not make a man or a woman single again. Adultery could not occur in remarriage if divorce ended the first marriage. God has joined the husband and wife together as one. An Act or a State? Is the adultery a one time act that occurs only on the day of remarriage or is the adultery the sexual union of the remarried man and woman throughout their marriage? This question is often phrased: But is the adultery in remarriage only a one time act? It normally refers to continuous or repeated action. However, in the indicative mood, it may represent punctiliar action. The indicative mood is the only mood in which distinctions can regularly be made about the time when an action occurs. Some have used the present indicative definition to state that the adultery only occurs one time at marriage and does not occur after that. However that conclusion cannot be decisively made from the present indicative. Every act of adultery sexual relations in remarriage occurs at a specific point in time and all repeated acts of adultery occur at specific points in time. At the same time the present indicative does not indicate that the act of adultery cannot or does not occur again. There is the possibility with the present indicative that continuous or repeated action of adultery does occur. God states that the sexual intercourse of a divorced and remarried couple is adultery. Therefore each time they have sexual intercourse they commit an act of adultery. As they continue to have sexual relations and there is no repentance, it becomes a state of adultery. Therefore, adultery in remarriage is both an act each time it occurs, and a continuing state of sinning. The action of remarriage is not adultery. Both an act or a state of adultery, is sin. Either one bars one from fellowship with Jesus and from entering Heaven. One is guilty of sin before God until they have repented of the sin and stopped the sin. I discovered some interesting things that I had never seen before, that I believe clarifies some of what we wrestle with in the doctrine of marriage, divorce, and remarriage. In Jeremiah 3 God states that He gave Israel the ten norther tribes a certificate of divorce. However at no point did that annul or end the covenant that He had made with the ten northern tribes of Israel even though Israel had married other gods. God says in Jeremiah3: Jesus said that from the beginning it was not so. Hardness of heart is refusing to believe what God has said and is sin. Jesus could not endorse the excuse of hardness of heart as justification to do the opposite of what God had said. In the ways hast thou sat for them, as the Arabian in the wilderness; and thou hast polluted the land with thy whoredoms and with thy wickedness. Behold, thou hast spoken and done evil things as thou couldest. But she returned not.

**Chapter 3 : When Two Become Four or More: Glorifying God in a Blended Family - Divorce and Remarriage**

*Remarriage and God's Renewing Grace: A Positive Biblical Ethic for Divorced Christians by Dwight Hervey Small starting at \$ Remarriage and God's Renewing Grace: A Positive Biblical Ethic for Divorced Christians has 1 available editions to buy at Half Price Books Marketplace.*

There was a time when it was the keynote of the theology and the Christian life of strong and holy men. We know how deep in Scotland it entered into the national life and thought. It made mighty men, to whom God, and His promise and power were wonderfully real. It will be found still to bring strength and purpose to those who will take the trouble to bring all their life Ed comment: Two Covenants Covenant as defined by the Scriptures is a solemn and binding relationship which is meant to last a life time. This discussion will not deal with the signing of a so-called "marriage covenant", but instead will emphasize knowing the Biblical truth about the faithfulness of the covenant keeping God. It is my contention that when we come to know the Biblical truth regarding covenant e. The short version is that our marriage of 25 years was in serious trouble in , both of us having been born again about 10 years prior. In the sovereignty of God, a Precept Ministries i nductive Bible study on Covenant click lesson 1 was offered at our local church during the day and during the evening which allowed both my wife and myself to attend. The Spirit of God took the Biblical truth on covenant and radically transformed our marriage, restoring the "years that the locusts had eaten". What transpired was nothing short of a miracle! Marriage has become little more than an upgraded social contract between two peopleâ€”not a holy covenant between a man and a woman and their God for a lifetime. In the Old Testament days a covenant was solemn and binding. When two people entered into a covenant with one another, a goat or lamb would be slain and its carcass would be cut in half. With the two halves separated and lying on the ground, the two people who had formed the covenant would solemnize their promise by walking between the two halves Ed note: It is no small wonder that the Lord is passionate about the sanctity of marriage and the stability of the home. This covenant of marriage is based on the covenant God has made with us. It is in the power of His promise to her mankind that our personal covenant of marriage can be kept against the forces that would destroy homes and ruin lives. Holy Wisdom to Build Happy Homes. A deep stream of independence and self-sufficiency flows in my soul, reinforced by three decades of learning to make life work on my own. The covenant of marriage demands that I lay down my lifelong commitment to myself for the sake of another. God does not grant me permission to renege on my promise if disappointment or suffering in marriage seem more than I can bear. Then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. And the man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. The woman was made of a rib out of the side of Adam; not made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be beloved. Consequently they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together note Who joined them , let no man separate. It is therefore critical that we understand the truth about covenant as it relates to marriage. In covenant you become identified with the other individual and there is a supernatural commingling of two lives. When a you enter covenant with your beloved, the sign is usually a ring which serves as a constant reminder memorial of the solemn and binding of your marriage covenant. A similar practice prevails at the coronation of European sovereigns generally. It also runs back to the days of the early Roman emperors, and of Alexander the Great. The very covenant itself, or its binding force, has been sometimes thought to depend on the circlet representing it ; as if the life which was pledged passed into the token of its pledging. Thus Lord Bacon says: On this idea it is, that many persons are unwilling to remove the wedding-ring from the finger, while the compact holds. Since God instituted this covenant and it is His will that it remain unbroken, you can be assured that His supernatural hand of blessing will be on your "covenant cake" ceremony. See discussion of the Oneness of Covenant As you read the following dictionary definitions of the word friend, you might see if any of these definitions apply to you and your covenant partner. Webster says a friend is one attached to another by affection. A friend is one who is regarded with liking, affection, and loyalty. A friend is a person with whom one has a bond of mutual

affection. A friend is a person with whom one is on good and, usually, familiar terms. And art Thou not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in Thy hand so that no one can stand against Thee. The Septuagint Lxx translates *ahab* with *agapao* - see word study. Unlike the English term, the Hebrew word has less to do with emotion and more to do with actions. Literally God is addressing Abraham as "the one loving Me. The basis for their mutual love was their immutable unconditional covenant. Can you see how this OT picture would have application to a husband and wife who have entered into the covenant of marriage? In other words, friends share "secrets" and they do so because there is a trust between them. A husband and wife in covenant should be willing to be open, authentic, transparent and "real" with their covenant partner because he or she is their friend! Does this describe your relationship with your spouse? Abraham was the friend of God by virtue of entering covenant with Him. As friends in the marriage covenant there should be no secrets from the covenant partner. Friends are transparent and honest with one another. Does friendship describe your marriage? If it does not, it can yet describe your marriage. After 45 years in the covenant of marriage, I can honestly say that my wife is still my best friend. Solomon was correct when he said that "a friend loves at all times. Recall the covenant vows many couples made to each other at the altar of God - "I give you this ring [the circle being a sign of an unbroken covenant], wear it with love and joy. I choose you to be my wife, to have and to hold from this day forward for better or for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish as long as we both shall live. True friendship is not fed from the barn floor or the wine vat; it is not like the rainbow dependent upon the sunshine, it is fixed as a rock and firm as granite, and smiles superior to wind and tempest. If we have friendship at all, brethren and sisters, let this be the form it takes: Indeed, "a pledge to take a woman for his wife commits a man to sharing his life in its entirety. This is my beloved, and this is my friend! As Chantry quipped "How soon marriage counseling sessions would end if husbands and wives were competing in thoughtful self-denial!

**Chapter 4 : How to Strengthen Your Marriage with Grace**

*download remarriage and gods renewing grace a positive biblical ethic for DIVORCED CHRISTIANS remarriage and gods renewing pdf John MacArthur - False Teacher, False Preacher, and Heretic MacArthur on the Blood of Christ.*

The Lord our God has restored these lost Biblical Truths concerning divorce, remarriage, submission and interracial marriage to release these people and those in like situations from bondage, guilt and shame. God is revealing His real heart to His people and His people are glorifying Him. These are some testimonies of what people are saying about DivorceHope. My name is Joyce. I went to marriage seminars and heard that "the whole message of the New Testament is about forgiveness" and that I did not need to "worry" about remarriage. I listened to "good preachers" who preached both for and against remarriage. I read books and listened to TV and radio shows on the subject. And a few select good friends who, mostly from a sincere desire to "help" me, let me know that, in the end, I needed to "deal" with this "sin" in my life. I was miserably depressed after awhile and cried on an almost nightly basis. I felt that I was possibly living in perpetual sin! I loved my Lord Jesus I could not continue to hurt Him this way. In the end I felt the only thing left to do was to divorce my current husband, who I loved dearly, and live a single life in order to find peace with God! I sought the answer from God. I prayed and read His Word, writing this agonizing problem down a thousand times at the top of my "Things To Ask God" list! Then one day, because God had intervened in a long trip that I was supposed to take I found myself alone in my bedroom, with the Lord, listening to Him. No one was going to call me or come over to my home that day, because everyone thought that I was out of town! I asked a question: What do you want to teach me today? The very first site that I came to was "DivorceHope. I had NOT sinned!! But even if you do marry, you have not sinned! The "gates of hell" could NOT "prevail", they dissolved into nothing Jesus had come into my "false prison" and set me FREE!!! And no man will ever be able to take this "peace" from me I want to personally thank Stephen for being obedient to the Holy Spirit and writing "Divorce: But I mostly want to thank my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ for loving me enough to rescue me from a prison that I could well have lived in for the rest of my life! From the heart of a woman who loves much Joyce Thank you for the encouragement. I searched on divorce advice for women and found this site- what a weight off my shoulders! As a Catholic, I feared that remarriage was not an option for me even though I did NOT want a divorce from a man I wanted to be with for the rest of my life. If there are ever times that you wonder if all the time you spend on this website is worth it, know that you changed my life! Thank you and God bless. Liz What a Godsend this is! I have been tormented in an abusive relationship for near to 34 years now. This has all just become much too heavy for me to bear any longer and I feared I would have to leave the church because I was setting aside my vows in marriage. Thank you for your obedience in faith doing what the Lord called you to do! Until this weekend I had never spotted this site. This weekend I made a conscious decision that my marriage was over and that I would live out my days a single woman never knowing the cherishing that is supposed to be happening in marriage. It sure gave me immediate insight into what was in his heart and mind. Thank God for this book! Thank God for this internet site! Thank God for you! Peace to you, I. Your website gave me the freedom to think differently about working through our marriage without a distorted view of the guilt and shame that might await on the other side if divorce were to occur. Mister Gola, your book excerpts are right on time for the Body of Christ. Dear Sirs, I have bought this book, and it is just an awesome book. This is truly what I needed to hear, after struggling with so many difficult thoughts in a very difficult marriage, that finally led to a divorce, with all the grief and relief connected with that May GOD bless you beyond measure. Truly yours, Thank You so much! God Bless, Irene How have I missed this book? Like the author, I have had the issue of divorce laid on my heart Like so many in the church, I have been taught the "conventional" teachings and yet, I have KNOWN in my heart and spirit that the teaching was incomplete Thank you for echoing what God has been saying to me. It is the first time I have had such clear confirmation of my worth to Christ, rather more I feel approved of by Christ in and since my divorce. It is always easy for me to see that God loves and accepts other people and that he loves them unconditionally but it is very difficult to believe that God see that he feels the same for me and receive his

blessing. Thank you and may God bless you and your family. I read your site. Is it really true?? Have others been led by God out of a marriage? No one believes me that that could be true. However, he laid a path that was so defined. Your website is an oasis to me. I am divorcing my husband of 15 years because we have never had an emotional connection and he was physically intimate with me about once a year! I have lost almost every friend in this decision, even my parents are on his side. I thought Biblically I had to stay in this deadness that was killing me in every way. Thank you for being one of VERY few voices of hope and life. Thank you for this book! I just finished your book "Divorce: There were times that I finished a section sobbing. This book has changed my life. I had to let go of my wrong teaching since childhood. I am now in the process of what I believe is a God ordained divorce. We will be married 17 years â€¢. Unfortunately, my two teenage children had to force the issue with me to leave my abusive husband. He abused physically, mentally and emotionally my daughter, since the age of five she is now 14 and me. The domestic violence began immediately after we were married. I was a virgin when I married and am a born again Christian since childhood. My husband used my being a Christian as a tool to keep me in the marriage. However, your book has enlightened me to what was really the intent in the Bible regarding divorce. I was taught and truly believed that divorce was a sin. My husband is a closet alcoholic and drug abuser. He is also the treasurer of the board of trustees at my now former church. My church dismissed my pleas for help over the last several years. Now I realized, after four years of Christian counseling that I should have left the marriage years ago. My husband never wanted to be married; he just wanted someone to use and abuse. He always felt that I was the problem and refused any sort of counseling. He never really married me; he just chose to live under the same roof without any marital obligations and only to meet his selfish needs. I believe that this divorce will save the individuals in the family. Thank you and God bless you. I am ordering more of your books to give to people that I know. Your book may help some to save their marriages or realize when it is time to divorce. I really appreciate your work really and I am encouraged with the verses you mentioned and also with the way you explained them. May God continue to use your ministry for his children. I work with many people who have difficulty dealing with their divorces due to their spiritual belief. I wanted to thank you for your website and book as it is very helpful for them. I know I must be one of thousands who call to thank you for your compassionate and caring work. I just spent a half hour reading some of the excerpts from the book, and already I feel like a ton has been lifted from my shoulders.

**Chapter 5 : 28 Bible verses about Renewal, Of People Of God**

*Remarriage and God's Renewing Grace by Dwight Hervey Small, ISBN , Compare new and used books prices among online bookstores. Find the lowest price.*

He hates it because it always involves unfaithfulness to the solemn covenant of marriage that two partners have entered into before Him, and because it brings harmful consequences to those partners and their children Mal. Legal divorce was a concession for the faithful partner due to the sexual sin or abandonment by the sinning partner, so that the faithful partner was no longer bound to the marriage Matt. Therefore, the believer should never consider divorce except in specific circumstances see next section , and even in those circumstances it should only be pursued reluctantly because there is no other recourse. The Grounds for Divorce The only New Testament grounds for divorce are sexual sin or desertion by an unbeliever. This is a general term that encompasses sexual sin such as adultery, homosexuality, bestiality, and incest. When one partner violates the unity and intimacy of a marriage by sexual sin and forsakes his or her covenant obligation the faithful partner is placed in an extremely difficult situation. After all means are exhausted to bring the sinning partner to repentance, the Bible permits release for the faithful partner through divorce Matt. The second reason for permitting a divorce is in cases where an unbelieving mate does not desire to live with his or her believing spouse 1 Cor. When an unbeliever desires to leave, trying to keep him or her in the marriage may only create greater tension and conflict. Also, if the unbeliever leaves the marital relationship permanently but is not willing to file for divorce, perhaps because of lifestyle, irresponsibility, or to avoid monetary obligations, then the believer is in an impossible situation of having legal and moral obligations that he or she cannot fulfill. The Possibility of Remarriage Remarriage is permitted for the faithful partner only when the divorce was on biblical grounds. In fact, the purpose for a biblical divorce is to make clear that the faithful partner is free to remarry, but only in the Lord Rom. If she repents from her sin of unbiblical divorce, the true fruits of that repentance would be to seek reconciliation with her former husband Matt. The same is true for a man who divorces unbiblically 1 Cor. The only time such a person could remarry another is if the former spouse remarries, proves to be an unbeliever, or dies, in which cases reconciliation would no longer be possible. The Bible also gives a word of caution to anyone who is considering marriage to a divorcee. If the divorce was not on biblical grounds and there is still a responsibility to reconcile, the person who marries the divorcee is considered an adulterer Mark The Role of the Church Believers who pursue divorce on unbiblical grounds are subject to church discipline because they openly reject the Word of God. The one who obtains an unbiblical divorce and remarries is guilty of adultery since God did not permit the original divorce Matt. That person is subject to the steps of church discipline as outlined in Matthew If a professing Christian violates the marriage covenant and refuses to repent during the process of church discipline, Scripture instructs that he or she should be put out of the church and treated as an unbeliever v. Before such a divorce, however, reasonable time should be allowed for the possibility of the unfaithful spouse returning because of the discipline. The leadership in the local church should also help single believers who have been divorced to understand their situation biblically, especially in cases where the appropriate application of biblical teaching does not seem clear. Again, in some cases this would affect the application of the biblical principles 1 Cor. Pre-conversion Divorce According to 1 Corinthians 7: The Apostle Paul, therefore, instructs believers to recognize that God providentially allows the circumstances they find themselves in when they come to Christ. If they were called while married, then they are not required to seek a divorce even though divorce may be permitted on biblical grounds. If they were called while divorced, and cannot be reconciled to their former spouse because that spouse is an unbeliever or is remarried, then they are free to either remain single or be remarried to another believer 1 Cor. Repentance and Forgiveness In cases where divorce took place on unbiblical grounds and the guilty partner later repents, the grace of God is operative at the point of repentance. A sign of true repentance will be a desire to implement 1 Corinthians 7: If reconciliation is not possible, however, because the former spouse is an unbeliever or is remarried, then the forgiven believer could pursue another relationship under the careful guidance and counsel of church leadership. In cases where a believer obtained a divorce on unbiblical

grounds and remarried, he or she is guilty of the sin of adultery until that sin is confessed. Mark God does forgive that sin immediately when repentance takes place, and there is nothing in Scripture to indicate anything other than that. From that point on the believer should continue in his or her current marriage.

**Chapter 6 : God's Grace for Divorce: God's Peace In The Storm!**

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Is remarriage after divorce always adultery? Before we even begin to answer this question, let us reiterate, "God hates divorce" Malachi 2: The pain, confusion, and frustration most people experience after a divorce are surely part of the reason that God hates divorce. Even more difficult, biblically, than the question of divorce, is the question of remarriage. The vast majority of people who divorce either remarry or consider getting remarried. What does the Bible say about this? These Scriptures clearly state that remarriage after a divorce is adultery, except in the instance of "marital unfaithfulness. It is our view that there are certain instances in which divorce and remarriage are permitted without the remarriage being considered adultery. These instances would include unrepentant adultery and abandonment of a believing spouse by an unbelieving spouse. We are not saying that a person under such circumstances should remarry. The Bible definitely encourages remaining single or reconciliation over remarriage 1 Corinthians 7: At the same time, it is our view that God offers His mercy and grace to the innocent party in a divorce and allows that person to remarry. A person who gets a divorce for a reason other than the reasons listed above, and then gets remarried has committed adultery Luke The question then becomes, is this remarriage an "act" of adultery, or a "state" of adultery. The present tense of the Greek in Matthew 5: At the same time, the present tense in Greek does not always indicate continuous action. Sometimes it simply means that something occurred Aoristic, Punctiliar, or Gnostic present. For example, the word "divorces" in Matthew 5: It is our view that remarriage, no matter the circumstances, is not a continual state of adultery. Only the act of getting remarried itself is adultery. In the Old Testament Law, the punishment for adultery was death Leviticus At the same time, Deuteronomy The Bible explicitly says that God hates divorce Malachi 2: The Bible nowhere commands a remarried couple to divorce. Ending a remarriage through divorce would be just as sinful as ending a first marriage through divorce. Both would include the breaking of vows before God, between the couple, and in front of witnesses. No matter the circumstances, once a couple is remarried, they should strive to live out their married lives in fidelity, in a God-honoring way, with Christ at the center of their marriage. A marriage is a marriage. God does not view the new marriage as invalid or adulterous. A remarried couple should devote themselves to God, and to each other "and honor Him by making their new marriage a lasting and Christ-centered one Ephesians 5:

**Chapter 7 : God's grace for the divorced and remarried**

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God has peace and grace for every divorce. In fact, His peace and grace is what causes a divorce in a number of situations. The peace between God and man is from God himself. Jesus gave us His peace so we can be joined to Him. Whenever there is peace between two parties, it causes a joining. Whenever there is strife enmity between two parties, it causes a separation. Because peace brings unity, there is a constant battle raging for our soul. The world is battling for us to be joined to its ways, while God is battling for us to be joined to Him. And whomever we chose to join, we by default become separated from the other. The true understanding of the peace of God is found in the book of Hebrews. But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? We all want peace in our families. The peace of God is released in us through our relationship with Him. His peace causes a separation in our lives of what is, and what is not of God. The peace of God works in every area of our life to bring us to God. True peace always carries with it a separating unto that which is holy, pure or true. Peace will lead us out of wrong situations. It will separate us unto the Lord Himself. In fact, God recognizes only two types of people in the world: We tend to socialize with those people who are like us, or those we want to be like. This explains why even Christians tend to embrace that which is unlike God. Because of this, there is a continual battle raging. Before coming to God, we were all part of this fallen world. We only knew about Him. This is why there are battles going on in our hearts. Thus, the peace of the world is trying to unify itself at the same time as the peace of God. This is why sin feels good for a season. See Hebrews To get to where we are led by the Spirit of God, the peace of God will separate our lives from the carnal ways we live, hence tipping our world up-side down. Nevertheless, by the grace of God, we will ultimately be at peace with God and not the world. Peace and marriage go hand-in-hand. If we want to be at peace with God and have peace in our family, we must make those tough decisions to allow peace to rule. The Lord never said it was going to be easy, but it will be much better. There are many critical keys in this book regarding divorce, remarriage, submission, interracial marriage and relationships. We have provided you with a number of very helpful links for marriage and divorce advice, marriage and divorce counseling as well as valuable information for your critical situation.

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*Divorce & Remarriage Download/Print. God hates divorce. He hates it because it always involves unfaithfulness to the solemn covenant of marriage that two partners have entered into before Him, and because it brings harmful consequences to those partners and their children (Mal. ).*

What does the Bible say about divorce and remarriage? First of all, no matter what view one takes on the issue of divorce, it is important to remember Malachi 2: God realizes, though, that, since marriages involve two sinful human beings, divorces are going to occur. It can mean fornication, prostitution, adultery, etc. Jesus is possibly saying that divorce is permissible if sexual immorality is committed. Sexual relations are an integral part of the marital bond: Therefore, any breaking of that bond by sexual relations outside of marriage might be a permissible reason for divorce. If so, Jesus also has remarriage in mind in this passage. It is important to note that only the innocent party is allowed to remarry. Some understand 1 Corinthians 7: However, the context does not mention remarriage but only says a believer is not bound to continue a marriage if an unbelieving spouse wants to leave. Others claim that abuse spousal or child is a valid reason for divorce even though it is not listed as such in the Bible. While this may very well be the case, it is never wise to presume upon the Word of God. God has forgiven us of so much more. Surely we can follow His example and even forgive the sin of adultery Ephesians 4: However, in many instances a spouse is unrepentant and continues in sexual immorality. That is where Matthew Many also look to quickly remarry after a divorce when God might desire them to remain single. God sometimes calls people to be single so that their attention is not divided 1 Corinthians 7: Remarriage after a divorce may be an option in some circumstances, but that does not mean it is the only option. The Bible makes it abundantly clear that God hates divorce Malachi 2: However, God recognizes that divorce will occur, even among His children.

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*As we have seen, God in His bible lists certain scriptural divorce and remarriage situations. Let's obey the word of God in this critical area of people's lives and have the same compassion on God's people that He Himself has demonstrated.*

People are always looking for divorce lawyer, attorney, mediation and mediator, even online. They even want do-it-yourself divorce for they want a quick divorce. Most Christians who favor divorce try to justify their view by arguing that God allowed divorce. They proceed to argue that since God is never changing, then he must allow divorce now. However, we must not jump to conclusion based on one or two individual verses in the Bible, but should look at its teaching as a whole. Based on Mal 2: Why did Moses allow divorce in the OT then? Did God contradict Himself, or did he change his mind? If we read Mark Just because God allowed Pharaoh and those who desire divorce to harden their hearts, does it mean that He supported what they did? By the same token, God allows sins like murders and rapes to occur too, but that does not mean He ordains these actions! Although everything that happens in this world is permitted by God, not everything is according to His righteous will. There are generally three situations God allows events to take place Reference 2. Divorce belong to the first category of the above link. Most Christians will argue that there is one ground for divorce Matthew Once again, we should not jump to conclusion. Jesus said, "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery. What this passage teaches is that if a husband divorces his wife, he causes her to commit adultery if she remarries and vice versa. However, if a husband divorces his wife because she has committed adultery, then he does not cause her to commit adultery. It merely teaches that if a husband hardens his heart to divorce his wife, under what situation does he causes his wife to commit adultery. Thus there are absolutely no grounds hardship, bankruptcy, bad relationship, even adultery or whatever the reason for divorce Biblically. Even if adultery is involved, Christians should learn to forgive, much like God forgave our sins. Moreover, one should consider the impact of divorce on child kid or children kids. From a Biblical point of view, the answer to the question of whether Christians should divorce should be quite clear to the reader. Does it mean that divorced Christians are not saved? There is no sin too great for God to forgive. The latter is not the behavior of a true Christian.