

VIEWPOINTS⁺ MT. 19:3-12

3. Divorce, remarriage **for 2 reasons / causes** (very limited & specific causes)

- **The historic, reformational view of divorce & remarriage**
- **“Except it be for fornication”**

Deuteronomy 24:1 When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found **some uncleanness** in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house. **Deuteronomy 24:2** And when she is departed out of his house, **she may go and be another man's wife.**

Deuteronomy 24:3 And if the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife; **Deuteronomy 24:4** Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the LORD: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

Matthew 5:31 It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: **Matthew 5:32** But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, **saving for the cause of fornication (πορνείας)**, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

Matthew 19:9 And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, **except it be for fornication (μη̄ ἐπὶ πορνείᾳ)**, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

1 Corinthians 7:12 **But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If** any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away.

1 Corinthians 7:13 **And** the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him.

1 Corinthians 7:14 **For** the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy.

1 Corinthians 7:15 **But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.**

1 Corinthians 7:16 For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?

Thoughts:

- This is not the historic, Biblical position on marriage
- This is about the exceptions
- Marriage is **always** grounded in creation, divorce in the fall / sin
- Divorce was always allowed **never** commanded
- Moses simply makes the process legal & formal → protecting the wife!
- Remarriage was always allowed **after** the process

Never required

Probably assumed

- The question became one of causation – **why?**
- **Some uncleanness** – but what does that mean?

Shammai: for some kind of gross indecency for divorce. However, he allowed most anyone to be remarried.

Hillel: All kinds of offenses

Akiba (a Hillelite): if you find a more attractive woman

- **Jesus limits the exception(s) to fornication**

➤ **Fornication is the biggest word for sexual immorality. Adultery is the smaller word for marital immorality.**

If used together:

Fornication:

Adultery:

➤ **Fornication can & often does include most any kind of sexual immorality.**

1 Corinthians 5:1 It is reported commonly that there is **fornication (πορνεία)** among you, and **such fornication (τοιούτη πορνεία)** as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.

1 Corinthians 6:13 Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is **not for fornication (οὐ τῆ πορνεία)**, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body. **1 Corinthians 6:14** And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.

1 Corinthians 6:15 Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of **an harlot (πόρνης)**? God forbid. **1 Corinthians 6:16** What? know ye not that he which is joined **to an harlot (τῆ πόρνη)** is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.

1 Corinthians 6:18 **Flee fornication (Φεύγετε τὴν πορνείαν)**. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

1 Corinthians 7:1 Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. **1 Corinthians 7:2** Nevertheless, to avoid **fornication (τὰς πορνείας)**, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.

Acts 15:20 But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, **and from fornication**, and from things strangled, and from blood.

Acts 15:29 That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, **and from fornication**: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.

Acts 21:25 As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written and concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from things offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, **and from fornication**.

Jude 7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them, in like manner **giving themselves over to fornication (ἐκπορνεύσασαι)**, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Leviticus 18:6 None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him, to uncover their nakedness: I am the LORD. **Leviticus 18:7** The nakedness of thy father, or the nakedness of thy mother, shalt thou not uncover: she is thy mother; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness. **Leviticus 18:8** The nakedness of thy father's wife shalt thou not uncover: it is thy father's nakedness. **Leviticus 18:9** The nakedness of thy sister, the daughter of thy father, or daughter of thy mother, whether she be born at home, or born abroad, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover. **Leviticus 18:10** The nakedness of thy son's daughter, or of thy daughter's daughter, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover: for theirs is thine own nakedness. **Leviticus 18:11** The nakedness of thy father's wife's daughter, begotten of thy father, she is thy sister, thou shalt not uncover her nakedness. **Leviticus 18:12** Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy father's sister: she is thy father's near kinswoman. **Leviticus 18:13** Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy mother's sister: for she is thy mother's near kinswoman. **Leviticus 18:14** Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy father's brother, thou shalt not approach to his wife: she is thine aunt. **Leviticus 18:15** Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy daughter in law: she is thy son's wife; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness. **Leviticus 18:16** Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy brother's wife: it is thy brother's nakedness. **Leviticus 18:17** Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of a woman and her daughter, neither shalt thou take her son's daughter, or her daughter's daughter, to uncover her nakedness; for they are her near kinswomen: it is wickedness. **Leviticus 18:18** Neither shalt thou take a wife to her sister, to vex her, to uncover her nakedness, beside the other in her life time. **Leviticus 18:19** Also thou shalt not approach unto a woman to uncover her nakedness, as long as she is put apart for her uncleanness. **Leviticus 18:20** Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour's wife, to defile thyself with her.

Leviticus 18:21 And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD.

Leviticus 18:22 Thou shalt **not** lie with mankind, as with womankind: **it is abomination**.

Leviticus 18:23 **Neither** shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: **neither** shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: **it is confusion**.

Leviticus 20:13 If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.]

Leviticus 20:15 And if a man lie with a beast, he shall surely be put to death: and ye shall slay the beast. **Leviticus 20:16** And if a woman approach unto any beast, and lie down thereto, thou shalt kill the woman, and the beast: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

Exodus 22:19 Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death.]