**DIVORCE, SIN AND ENTRANCE TO HEAVEN**

5.35 DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE: We believe that God disapproves of and forbids divorce and

intends marriage to last until one of the spouses dies. Divorce and remarriage are regarded as adultery except on the grounds of fornication, or an unbelieving spouse departing. Divorced and remarried persons or divorced persons, who have repented and come under God’s grace and under church authority, may hold positions of service in the church and be greatly used of God for Christian service, they may be considered for the offices of pastor, elder or deacon if they qualify. (Mal. 2:14-17; Matt. 19:3-12; Rom. 7:1-3; 1 Cor. 7:15-16).

**The divorce issue**

-marriage is a covenant much like our covenant with god when we accepted His

Lordship in our lives.

 -it is a spiritual bond between two people

 -it is a binding moral obligation

**The difference between the catholic and the protestant view is protestants see it as a covenant that can be broken but shouldn’t be and Catholics see it as a saving sacrament that leads to spiritual death.**

**MOSES AND DIVORCE: Moses is establishing basic laws to govern behavior**

-Deuteronomy 24:1-4, divorce permissible

 -God is speaking to a simple, agrarian society, some basics to follow

 -the rules were cultural and simple and straight forward

 -step up for women who were just property before this

 -it also says don’t go back to your

-Malachi 2:16 God hates divorce

**PAUL AND DIVORCE: Paul is dealing with the practical issues of the church**

-1 Corinthians 7:10-16, Romans 7:1-3

 -divorce was commonplace in Jewish tradition

 -Jesus teach on divorce was very strict

 -Jesus added husband culpability in divorce and adultery

 -Paul allowed for divorce if it had to happen

 -for desertion

 -for spiritual differences

**JESUS AND DIVORCE: Jesus is dealing with a heart condition**

-Matt 5:31, Mark 10:2-12, Luke 16:18, Matthew 19:1-12

 -because the hardness of your heart God gave this law

-God made rules for the hard-hearted Israel’s but that wasn’t Gods desire

-did Jesus permit divorce

 -Mark and Luke no exemption clause

 -Matthew allows for sexual immorality divorce

-did Jesus allow remarriage

 -no references

 -but Rabbinic tradition did allow based on Deuteronomy 24

-did Jesus rejects the Mosaic Law

 -no he rejects their hard hearts

-Jesus never destroyed the law in any other conversation, he fulfilled it

 -Jesus was not cancelling the law

 -Jesus criticized the use of the law flippantly and freely

 -the perfect version of marriage was the Garden (pre-fall)

-Jesus doesn’t lay down laws except that we love God, love others and Go make disciples

 -he didn’t law down a law here just like Jesus didn’t lay down the law

 when he said you must hate your family to follow Him

-Jesus teaching calls us to repentance and to analyze our heart condition

Culturally there are issues today that Moses, Jesus and Paul never had to deal with that have to be considered in the area of divorce. In the past women were property with no higher value than cattle. They produced offspring for purpose of carrying the work load. So they had very few rights at all that in light of todays culture we must consider things today that would have been permissible then and are not considered permissible now.

 -verbal/emotional abuse

 -physical abuse

 -adultery

 -multiple wives

 -sexual abuse

 -slavery/imprisonment, etc

**According to the Bible divorce is not a sin when it isn’t done for**

-adultery of any sort

 -death

 -unequally yoked

 -abandonment (death, unequal yoke)

 -what does it mean to abandon a covenant relationship?

 -physical, verbal spiritual abuse and manipulation?

**“You can’t get into heaven if you sin” is not a Biblical idea**

-this is the opposite of the gospel message

-sin doesn’t stop you from going to heaven, not accepting Jesus as your savior sends you to hell and nothing else

 -our sins all are forgiven when we ask at salvation

 -after that we take on Christ’s righteousness

 -we will continue to sin and God will continue to forgive if we ask

**All sin is equal (except blaspheming the HS, which is saying and believing “that there is no God”) and it is impossible not to sin. Some sins are mentioned as being “really bad” but forgiveness of all sins works equally.**

Matthew 12:31-32

James 2:10

Romans 6:23

Romans 3:10

Romans 3:23

Mark 7:21-23

James 4:17

Matt 5:21-28

**The gate to heaven is narrow because Jesus is the only way but God gives us a way freely and simply that is always available.**

 **-no other Gods**

 **-no other works just you and God**

John 14:6-7

Matthew 7:13-24

Luke 6:46

John 14:23-24

1 John 1:9-10

Salvation freely given:

John 3:36

John 3:16-18

Ephesians 2:8-9

Romans 10:9

Ephesians 1:7

Colossians 2:13

Romans 1:16

John 6:47

**Tension of a forgiving God and a judgmental God. Is he a good, loving, freely giving, grace filled, mercy filled God or a constantly judging God who makes it hard to serve Him?**

-Would God have given Jesus if He wasn’t a loving God

-Would He have forgiven so freely in His convos

-Would he have forgiven the thief

-Would he have given us the parable of the prodigal, lost coin and lost

sheep

**Jesus lived a life of giving grace and mercy to sinners without judgment**

-the thief, the adulteress woman, the Samarian woman

**Jesus work on the cross erases our sins permanently and makes us perfect in His sight.**

1 John 1:7-9

1 Peter 2:24

John 1:29

Ephesians 2:8-9

Romans 4:7-8

Romans 8:1

John 1:29

Hebrews 8:12

Hebrews 10:16-17

Micah 7:18-19

Colossians 2:14

2 Corinthians 5:17

**We are made righteous by Jesus work on the cross, thus we may sin but we aren’t a sinner, because Jesus imputed righteousness continues to be ours. The unrighteous are unsaved the righteous belong to Jesus family now.**

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

1 John 5:17-18

2 Corinthians 5:21

Romans 10:4

Philippians 3:9

Matthew 5:6

Romans 4:3, 25

Romans 8:28-32

Romans 6:1-14Romans 3:21-26

**Sin does not cancel your ticket to heaven**

Romans 8:38-39

1 Peter 1:3-5, 23

Romans 5-7

James 5:19-20

John 10:28-29

John 6:37

John 5:24

**Salvation is not a free pass to sin but once the sin is committed your only recourse is asking for forgiveness. There are many verses on it not being a free pass to sin, I ran out of time to write them down.**

**The tension of grace and forgiveness vs. judgement and sin**

-2 Timothy 2:11-12

 -James 5:19-20

 -Romans 11:23

Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but division. From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law. Luke 12:51-53

\*\*\*This is an end times discussion, where Jesus is talking about believers and unbelievers. As Christians we are called to unity on the essentials (the creeds) and grace on anything outside of that.\*\*\*

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/themelios/article/the-divorce-debate-where-are-we-now/>