

Remarriage

Text: Matthew 19:3-9

Introduction:

- A. Most people who divorce marry again. - *The rate of Americans entering their first marriage had declined for nearly a quarter century - but in the last decade remarriages have shown an increase of 40 per cent (US News & World Report. August 14, 1972).*
- B. The greatest tragedy is, many children of God are being involved, thus permanently ruining their lives.
- C. What is God's law concerning remarriage?
- I. Marriage is a divinely ordained and regulated relationship. - Genesis 2:18-24; Malachi 2:14; Matthew 19:4-6
- II. Thus, the only ones who have the right to marry are those to whom God has given the right. - Colossians 3:17; cf. 1 Corinthians 7:10-11
- III. The general principle is that God has given all people the right to marry. - 1 Corinthians 7:2
- IV. But this general principle has exceptions. - cf. Matthew 4:6-7
 - A. Divorced people do not have the right to marry. - Matthew 5:32; Mark 10:11-12; Luke 16:18; Romans 7:2-3; 1 Corinthians 7:10-11
 - B. The exception has one exception: the innocent party (one who has put away his mate because that mate is guilty of fornication) has the right to remarry. - Matthew 19:9
- V. Thus, three and only three classes of people have the right to marry:
 - A. one who has never been married - 1 Corinthians 7:2
 - B. one whose mate is dead - Romans 7:2-3; 1 Corinthians 7:39
 - C. the innocent party (as before defined) - Matthew 19:9

Conclusion:

- A. Only two classes of people have the right to remarry.
 - 1. one whose mate is dead
 - 2. the innocent party (as before defined)
- B. For any other divorced person to remarry is to be guilty of adultery. - Matthew 19:9
- C. No adulterer can inherit the kingdom of God. - Galatians 5:19-21
- D. Let us, therefore, cleanse ourselves. - 2 Corinthians 7:1