



June 22, 2008 • Dr. David Platt

**THE GOSPEL AND DIVORCE**

**1 Corinthians 7:10-15; Matthew 19:3-12;  
Deuteronomy 24:1-4; Genesis 2:24**

**The Church and Divorce...**

- We have **insulated** ourselves.
- We have **isolated** each other.
- We have **ignored** the problem.
  - ▶ Christians are running to the **courts** when they should be running to the church.
  - ▶ We are discrediting the testimony of the **church**.
  - ▶ We are disgracing the name of **Christ**.
- The responsibility of the church...
  - ▶ **Comfort** one another with love.
  - ▶ **Confront** one another with truth.

**God and Divorce...**

- God **created** marriage.
  - ▶ Marriage is **permanent**.
    - Only God can make marriage.
    - Only God can **break** marriage.
  - ▶ Marriage is a **covenant**.
    - Marriage is a **demonstration** to the world of Christ's covenant with His people.
- God **hates** divorce.
  - ▶ God hates the **causes** of divorce.
    - Divorce is **always** a result of sin.
    - Divorce is **almost** always sinful.
  - ▶ God hates the **consequences** of divorce.
    - Divorce negatively affects **physical** offspring.
    - Divorce negatively affects **spiritual** offspring.



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**THE GOSPEL AND DIVORCE**

**1 Corinthians 7:10-15; Matthew 19:3-12;  
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**The Church and Divorce...**

- We have \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves.
- We have \_\_\_\_\_ each other.
- We have \_\_\_\_\_ the problem.
  - ▶ Christians are running to the \_\_\_\_\_ when they should be running to the church.
  - ▶ We are discrediting the testimony of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ▶ We are disgracing the name of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The responsibility of the church...
  - ▶ \_\_\_\_\_ one another with love.
  - ▶ \_\_\_\_\_ one another with truth.

**God and Divorce...**

- God \_\_\_\_\_ marriage.
  - ▶ Marriage is \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Only God can make marriage.
    - Only God can \_\_\_\_\_ marriage.
  - ▶ Marriage is a \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Marriage is a \_\_\_\_\_ to the world of Christ's covenant with His people.
- God **hates** divorce.
  - ▶ God hates the \_\_\_\_\_ of divorce.
    - Divorce is \_\_\_\_\_ a result of sin.
    - Divorce is \_\_\_\_\_ always sinful.
  - ▶ God hates the \_\_\_\_\_ of divorce.
    - Divorce negatively affects \_\_\_\_\_ offspring.
    - Divorce negatively affects \_\_\_\_\_ offspring.

- God **regulates** divorce.
  - ▶ One ground for divorce among believers:
    - **Unrepentant Adultery.**
      - Divorce is **possible** in this situation.
      - Divorce between believers is never **desirable**.
        - We are not looking for **reasons** to divorce.
      - Divorce between believers is never **inevitable**.
        - We are looking for **reconciliation** to occur.
  - ▶ One ground for divorce between a believer and an unbeliever:
    - **Unsaved Abandonment.**
      - Divorce is **preferable** in this situation.
  - ▶ Remarriage is biblically **permissible** only after biblical grounds for divorce.
- God **redeems** divorce.
  - ▶ Your Eternal Husband is always **forgiving**.
  - ▶ Your Eternal Husband is always **faithful**.
    - He will never commit **adultery** against you.
    - He will never **abandon** you.

### **The Gospel and Divorce...**

- If you are single...
  - ▶ Maximize your singleness to **advance** the Gospel.
- If you are married...
  - ▶ Love your spouse in a way that **portrays** the Gospel.
- If you are considering divorce...
  - ▶ Remember the **preciousness** of the Gospel and the **power** of the Gospel.
- If you are divorced for a biblical reason...
  - ▶ **Rest** in the Gospel in your singleness or possibly in a future marriage.
- If you are divorced for an unbiblical reason and single...
  - ▶ Repent and **rely** on the Gospel to glorify Christ as you stay single.
- If you are divorced for an unbiblical reason and married...
  - ▶ Repent and **reflect** the Gospel in your current marriage.

- God \_\_\_\_\_ divorce.
  - ▶ One ground for divorce among believers:
    - Divorce is \_\_\_\_\_ in this situation.
    - Divorce between believers is never \_\_\_\_\_ .
      - We are not looking for \_\_\_\_\_ to divorce.
    - Divorce between believers is never \_\_\_\_\_ .
      - We are looking for \_\_\_\_\_ to occur.
  - ▶ One ground for divorce between a believer and an unbeliever:
    - Divorce is \_\_\_\_\_ in this situation.
  - ▶ Remarriage is biblically \_\_\_\_\_ only after biblical grounds for divorce.
- God \_\_\_\_\_ divorce.
  - ▶ Your Eternal Husband is always \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ▶ Your Eternal Husband is always \_\_\_\_\_ .
    - He will never commit \_\_\_\_\_ against you.
    - He will never \_\_\_\_\_ you.

### **The Gospel and Divorce...**

- If you are single...
  - ▶ Maximize your singleness to \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel.
- If you are married...
  - ▶ Love your spouse in a way that \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel.
- If you are considering divorce...
  - ▶ Remember the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospel and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospel.
- If you are divorced for a biblical reason...
  - ▶ \_\_\_\_\_ in the Gospel in your singleness or possibly in a future marriage.
- If you are divorced for an unbiblical reason and single...
  - ▶ Repent and \_\_\_\_\_ on the Gospel to glorify Christ as you stay single.
- If you are divorced for an unbiblical reason and married...
  - ▶ Repent and \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel in your current marriage.