



BUILDING
STRONG HOMES

Important Opening Considerations

1. Even the person who acted as wrongfully as possible on this matter may be fully forgiven and may have a fulfilled life of service to God after repentance
2. God often blesses a second marriage after repentance



LESSON #7

THE DIVORCE DILEMMA

**The plain truth is that
divorce has become an
epidemic.**

“Is it lawful for a man to put
away his wife for every
cause?”

Matthew 19:3



LESSON #7

THE DIVORCE DILEMMA

#1 DIVORCE DISPLAYS A PREVALENT PROBLEM

A. Divorce was a prevalent issue in Jesus' day



2 Schools of Thought in Jesus' Day

1. Rabbi Shammai taught you could only divorce if the woman was found to be immoral during the betrothal period.
2. Rabbi Hillel taught you could divorce for almost any reason even the burning of food.

#1

DIVORCE DISPLAYS A PREVALENT PROBLEM

A. Divorce was a prevalent issue in Jesus' day

B. Divorce is a prevalent issue in our day

- Almost 50% of American marriages will end in divorce
- Every 13 seconds, there is 1 divorce in America
- The average American marriage lasts just 8 years





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#2 DIVORCE DESTROYS A WONDERFUL PLAN

A. God's plan was for marriage to be the primary relationship

- “Leave, Cleave, & Weave”
- Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:5; Mark 10:5-9; Eph. 5:31



**The husband/wife relationship
is more important than the
parent/child relationship.**

#2 DIVORCE DESTROYS A WONDERFUL PLAN

A. God's plan was for marriage to be the primary relationship

B. God's plan was for marriage to be a a permanent relationship



“The Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.”

Malachi 2:14



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#3 DIVORCE DEMONSTRATES AN AWFUL PASSIVENESS WITH SCRIPTURE

A. The divorce debate often leads to Scripture twisting

B. The divorce debate always exposes a hard heart



“When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favor found 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. And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man’s wife.”

Deuteronomy 24:1-2

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#4 DIVORCE DEVELOPES A TRAGIC PERMISSIVENESS

- A. There is a prediction in these verses
- B. There is a prohibition in these verses
- C. There is a permission in these verses



DIVORCE IS PERMITTED IN SCRIPTURE (ALTHOUGH STILL TRAGICALLY) FOR JUST 2 REASONS

1. Unrepentant Adultery (Matthew 19:9)
2. Desertion by an Unbeliever (1 Corinthians 7:15)

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#5 DIVORCE DAMAGES INNOCENT PEOPLE

- The real tragedy of divorce is often the young children that are affected.





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