

# Divorce & Remarriage

## Part Three

- **Luke 16:18** "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery; and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery.
- **Point: The 'third party' – regardless of previous marital status – becomes an adulterer when marrying a divorcee.**

- **Mark 10:11-12** And He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her; 12 and if she herself divorces her husband and marries another man, she is committing adultery."
- **Point: Husband and wife alike are guilty of adultery if they divorce their spouse & remarry.**

# Deuteronomy 24:1-4

## ■ Challenges:

- One key difficulty is the precise meaning of the Hebrew phrase usually translated "indecent" or "unclean thing."
- A second difficulty is in understanding what is actually being commanded here.

# Case Law

- Case law is simply “law that is addressing a specific situation, or specific case.”
- Case law follows a set format:
  - First there is the description—usually found starting with “if” or “when.”
  - Second there is the prescription—usually found following the term “then.”
  - **What is crucial to understand in this is that *only* what is the prescription is what is to be obeyed.**

# Case Law—Examples

- Deuteronomy 21:15-16, “If a man has two wives...and the first-born son belongs to the unloved [wife], then it shall be in the day he wills his inheritance to his sons, he cannot designate the son of the loved [wife] the first-born.”
- Deuteronomy 24:7, “If a man is caught kidnapping any of his countrymen of the sons of Israel, and he deals with him violently, or sells him, then that thief shall die; so you shall purge the evil from among you.”

# Deuteronomy 24 & The KJV

## KJV

"When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favor 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. 2 And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's *wife*. 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; 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."

## NASB

"When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts *it* in her hand and sends her out from his house, 2 and she leaves his house and goes and becomes another man's *wife*, 3 and if the latter husband turns against her and writes her a certificate of divorce and puts *it* in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the latter husband dies who took her to be his wife, 4 *then* her former husband who sent her away is not allowed to take her again to be his wife, since she has been defiled; for that is an abomination before the LORD, and you shall not bring sin on the land which the LORD your God gives you as an inheritance."



# Matthew 5:31-32

- This is part of the Sermon on the Mount.
- Shows Christ's uniqueness in approaching the Word of God and how He teaches it.

# Matthew 5:31-32

- Point: The one who initiates a divorce, regardless of whether that same one remarries, is culpable (at fault) before God for causing the adultery of the divorced spouse if/when that spouse remarries.