

## DISCERNMENT ABOUT DIVORCE

### I. SOME PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ABOUT DIVORCE

- A. It is easy to become dull to the issue of divorce because it is so \_\_\_\_\_ in our society.
- B. It is easy to become heated in the issue of divorce because it is so \_\_\_\_\_ in the church.
- C. It is important to be \_\_\_\_\_ about the issue of divorce because so many lives are affected by it.
- D. It is necessary to recognize that the Scriptures \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ about the issue of divorce in a number of passages.

\* E.G. Deuteronomy 24:1-4; Isaiah 50:1; Jeremiah 3:8; Malachi 2:16; Matthew 1:18-19; Mark 10:18-19; Luke 16:18

### II. SOME GENERAL PRINCIPLES ABOUT DIVORCE BY JESUS CHRIST (Matthew 19:3-9)

- A. The *permanency* of \_\_\_\_\_ is God's original design and plan. (19:3-6)
- B. The *prohibition* of \_\_\_\_\_ is God's continued ideal and desire. (19:6b)
- C. The *permission* to divorce...
  - 1. By MOSES. (19:7-8)
    - a. This is referring to \_\_\_\_\_.
    - b. Divorce was permitted but never \_\_\_\_\_.
    - c. Divorce occurred because of the \_\_\_\_\_.
    - d. Though the Law permitted it and regulated it, divorce never originated with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. By JESUS CHRIST. (19:9)
    - a. Divorce is permitted due to \_\_\_\_\_, but is not commanded.
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_ is committed when one marries without a permissible divorce.

\* Matthew 5:22

\* A word to single believers:

### III. SOME SPECIFIC APPLICATIONS ABOUT DIVORCE BY THE APOSTLE PAUL

**(1 Corinthians 7:10-16)**

**A. Marriage Among BELIEVERS. (7:10-11)**

1. The Lord's command is to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What if this directive is disobeyed?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. or \_\_\_\_\_.

\* Footnote: This does not include the exception clause.

**B. MIXED MARRIAGES... When the UNBELIEVER WANTS TO STAY. (7:12-14)**

1. Paul commands the believer not \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The reason to remain married is for the \_\_\_\_\_ one gives to the unbelieving mate and the children.

**C. MIXED MARRIAGES... When the UNBELIEVER WANTS TO LEAVE. (7:15-16)**

1. Paul commands the believer to \_\_\_\_\_ the unbeliever go if they want out of the marriage.
2. The unbeliever's departure and divorce allows the believer to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The marriage should not be maintained by the believer solely as a basis for \_\_\_\_\_.

**IV. SOME CLOSING THOUGHTS ABOUT DIVORCE**

- A. The Bible emphasizes the \_\_\_\_\_ of marriage, not the \_\_\_\_\_ of divorce.
- B. The Scriptures teach that divorce always stems from \_\_\_\_\_, but does not imply that every divorced person is \_\_\_\_\_ of causing the divorce.
- C. God's Word permits divorce only on the grounds of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (mixed marriages).
- D. God's grace provides \_\_\_\_\_ for the sin of illegitimate divorce because of the cross-work of \_\_\_\_\_.

\* How does this apply to you?