Rose Avenue Church of Christ

October 2, 2017

Evening Services:

Is Marriage to be Held in Honor By All?

INTRODUCTION: Hebrews 13:4, ***“Marriage* is to be held *in honor among all, and the* marriage *bed* is to be *undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.”*** Acts 17:24-31, ***“Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”***

DISCUSSION: Marriage belongs to God! Garden Law dictates what God has wanted from the beginning, Matthew 19:3,4,6, ***“And He answered and said to them, ‘Have you not read that He who made* them *at the beginning* ‘made them male and female, *and said,* ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, andthe two shall become one flesh’*? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”* *Genesis 1:27; 5:2; 2:24***

1. Consider Matthew 5:31-32, ***“But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality (or fornication) causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.”***
2. Where in the New Testament does one find a scripture that mentions another cause for putting away a mate? IT DOES NOT!!
3. 1 Corinthians 7:10, ***“Now to the married I command,* yet *not I but the Lord: A wife is not to depart from* her *husband.”*** Where does one read of another exception given for putting a mate away, other than fornication?
4. 1 Corinthians 7:11, ***“But even if she does depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to* her *husband. And a husband is not to divorce* his *wife.”*** So a wife can depart and remain unmarried until her death or the death of her husband and it be okay with God? NO! What had Paul written in the previous scriptures? 1 Corinthians 7:1-5, ***“Nevertheless, because of (Fornication) sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.”***
5. Now let us consider Matthew 19:3-9, and understand that even the apostles of the Lord understood the finality of a marriage between a man and a woman. (One man for One woman for Life!) God hates divorce!
6. Malachi 2:13-17, ***“For the LORD God of Israel says
That He hates divorce, For it covers one's garment with violence,”
Says the LORD of hosts. “Therefore take heed to your spirit,
That you do not deal treacherously.”***
7. Matthew 19:1-9***, “He said to them, “Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.”***
8. 1 Corinthians 7:11, ***“But even if she does depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to* her *husband. And a husband is not to divorce* his *wife.”*** Matthew 19:6, ***“So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”***

CONCLUSION: There is an exception mentioned by Jesus in Matthew 19:9, but it was never taught as being the rule! Marriage Law has always been the rule from the Garden of Eden.