

God Hates Divorce

Mark 10:10-12
Charlie Brackett

Jesus had taught some profound lessons on marriage. The discourse was prompted by a question raised by the Pharisees, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" Of course, the practice then was much as it is today - a marriage could be dissolved for most any reason. All the law required was that a certificate of divorce be issued. Today, a divorce must be granted by the court, but it is not hard to get. Any reason will do. We've become accustomed to it. Roughly half of all American marriages end in divorce. There is no longer any stigma attached to it. It is just the way things are.

You know, those disciples in the first century probably felt the same. They also were accustomed to divorce. When Jesus ended His remarks by saying, "What God has joined together, let not man separate," His disciples couldn't believe it? Can't you just hear them? "Have we heard right? A man can't put his wife away for any cause? Incredible!" So, to be sure they understood, they asked Jesus again about the matter when they got into the house. Listen to the Lord's answer.

"Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." I don't know how the Lord could have been more plain. How is it our society has so missed this? I don't see how anyone could read this and not understand. Sometimes folks excuse different religious practices by saying that we don't understand the Bible alike, therefore, its okay that we all claim to follow the one God yet believe differently. Well, I don't believe that for a minute, but if I did, it wouldn't apply here. How can two people read this and not understand alike. Listen to Him again! "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

Jesus said the one who divorces his wife and marries another is an adulterer. Adultery is a sin. Adultery can send one to hell. A person who divorces for any reason as our law allows today and marries another person is guilty of adultery and is in danger of hell fire. I don't know a kind way to say that, and it cannot be ignored. Malachi 2:16 says God hates divorce. God has not okayed no-fault divorces.