

“Furthermore it has been said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ “But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.”

Matthew 5:31, 32

## Divorce Under the Law

- ◆ Divorce was never God's plan (Matt. 19:1-8) and still isn't (1 Cor. 7:13)
- ◆ God hates divorce (Mal. 2:14-16)
- ◆ The Law regulated it (Deut. 24:1-4)

## "But I say to You..."

- ◆ "...that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery."
- ◆ He gives only one reason for divorce - sexual immorality which is reemphasized in Matt. 19:9.
- ◆ This passage deals with a man, but is reversible (Mk. 10:11,12).

## Efforts to Put Aside the Teaching of Jesus

- ◆ Divorce is wrong for any reason
- ◆ Baptism makes the relationship right in God's eyes
- ◆ Jesus teaching applies only to those in the kingdom
- ◆ Adultery in these passages is not physical, but "breaking the covenant."
- ◆ Remain in whatever state that you are in.

## What We Must Do

- ◆ Don't play God
- ◆ Be compassionate
- ◆ Build strong marriages