

Marriage and Singleness

Matthew 19:1

Divorce

- Pharisees came to him to test him.
- Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?

Divorce

- Jewish Debate
 - Deuteronomy 24:1
 - if a man marries a woman
 - who becomes displeasing to him
 - because he finds something indecent about her
 - and he writes her a certificate of divorce

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Divorce

- Jewish Debate
 - displeasing...indecent
 - sexual unfaithfulness
 - anything, even trivial matters

Divorce

- Jesus' Answer
 - Therefore what God has joined together
 - let man not separate.

Divorce

- Why then did Moses command
 - that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce
 - and send her away?
- Deuteronomy 24:1-4

Divorce

- Moses permitted you to divorce your wives
 - because your hearts were hard.
- But it was not this way from the beginning.

Divorce

- anyone who divorces his wife
 - except for marital unfaithfulness
 - “sexual immorality”
- and marries another woman
 - commits adultery.

Divorce

- If this is the situation between a husband and wife
 - it is better not to marry.

Divorce

- Marriage should be taken seriously.
- Divorce was not part of God’s original plan, but is permitted in limited circumstances.

Singleness

- it is better not to marry
 - not everyone can accept this word
 - “have room for”
- but only those to whom it has been given.

Singleness

- For some are eunuchs because they are born that way
- others were made that way by men

Singleness

- and others have renounced marriage
 - because of the kingdom of heaven

Singleness

- 1 Corinthians 7:7-8
 - But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.
- It is good for them to stay unmarried...

Singleness

- 1 Corinthians 7:32-35
 - I would like you to be free from concern
 - an unmarried person is concerned about the Lord's affairs

Singleness

- Marriage is not somehow a better or more mature circumstance.
- Singleness is desirable for many reasons.

Married or Single?

- Marriage is a gift from God.
 - It is a lifelong commitment that should not be treated lightly.
- Singleness is a gift from God.
 - It is a blessing for those who are able to receive it.