

You Pick It: I'll Preach It

(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

- Introduction:
1. Tonight's lesson will examine a medley of several questions that were turned in; dealing generally with marriage.
 2. It is our aim to answer them biblically and concisely, and to encourage you to open your Bible and see if my answers are correct.
 3. (Acts 17:11-12).

I. Question One: What Does The Bible Say About Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage?

- A. This is a great question and one that is often ignored in many churches today.
- B. If one is not committed to truth, culture will drive their beliefs; thus the reason for all the "changes" we're hearing these days.
- C. (Matthew 19:1-12)
 1. The Pharisees were trying (testing) Jesus (19:3).
 - a. In order to understand how this question could be considered a "test" to Jesus, one must understand the background of Jewish thought and interpretation.
 - b. (Deuteronomy 24:1).
 - c. The school of Hillel (liberal)-divorce for any cause.
 - d. The school of Shammai (conservative)-divorce of adultery.
 - e. To take a stand on such a controversial issue would alienate Jesus from one group or the other.
 2. God's original plan (19:4-6)
 - a. Marriage is constituted by male and female.
 - b. Marriage is not homosexual.
 - c. Their relationship is intended by God to last for life.
 3. Alteration of God's original plan
 - a. During the Old Covenant, divorce was permitted.
 - b. The reason: the hardness of their hearts.
 - c. It was never God' ideal; "from the beginning it was not so."
 - d. (Acts 17:30-31).
 4. Christ's teaching on marriage and divorce (19:9)
 - a. Whoever puts away his wife and marries another commits adultery.
 - b. "Commits"-present tense meaning "keeps on committing adultery".
 - c. On exception (fornication) sexual immorality.
 - d. Any passage that is interpreted in such a way that is in conflict with this plain passage is wrongly interpreted.
 5. The disciples response (19:10).
 - a. They say that if this is true, that it is better for a man not to even marry.
 - 1) Does it not seem strange that men today just cannot seem to understand this passage, when it's meaning was so apparent to the disciples of Christ?
 6. Jesus' response to the disciples statement (19:11-12).
 - a. He says that all can accept this statement.
 - b. "This statement"-not what Jesus said, but what the disciples said.

- c. Not everyone is suited to live a single life.
- d. However, some are suited for single life.
 - 1. Eunuchs who are born.
 - 2. Eunuchs who are made by man.
 - 3. Eunuchs who have made themselves so for the kingdom's sake.

II. **Question Two: Is Pornography Grounds For Scriptural Divorce & Remarriage?**

- A. This is another great question and is terribly relevant in our culture today.
- B. Pornography is so accessible today, that it would be a rare thing for a child as young as 11 or 12 has not been exposed to it.
- C. Without question, pornography is a scourge in our culture today.
- D. But the question is: Does it give a husband or wife the right to divorce their spouse and marry another.
- E. I do not believe the Scriptures teach such.
 - 1. Every Greek lexicon defines fornication as “every kind of (generic) unlawful sexual intercourse.
 - 2. The grounds God gave for divorce and subsequent remarriage that would not involve a person in adultery is a physical act of fornication.
 - 3. Pornography, is mental, not physical.
 - 4. There is no doubt that pornography is sinful and violates what Jesus said about lust (Matthew 5:27-28), and would fall under condemnation by such words as “uncleanness” and “lewdness” (2 Corinthians 12:21), but it wouldn’t rise to the level of fornication.

III. **Question Three: Explain What The Love Languages Are?**

- A. Some of you may be well aware of what is meant by this question, and others may not, so allow me to share a little background.
- B. Gary Chapman, who travels the world doing seminars on marriage wrote a book in 1992 entitled, “The Five Love Languages.”
- C. Basically, in this book, Chapman outlines five major ways in which people show and receive love.
- D. Now this is important, because not everyone is the same, and we need to meet the needs of our spouse.
- E. (1 Peter 3:7).
- F. Here are the five “love languages” Chapman offered.
 - 1. Words of Affirmation.
 - 2. Quality Time.
 - 3. Receiving Gifts.
 - 4. Acts of Service.
 - 5. Physical Touch.

- Conclusion:
- 1. Friends, I know of nothing that has more to do with the salvation of your soul than your marriage relationship.
 - 2. If you’re not yet married - “choose wisely.” If you are, don’t take that relationship for granted, but work to make it what God intended for it to be.