

Huh?

Part Six: *divorce*

April 16, 2023

The scribes and Pharisees looked righteous, but righteous living goes beyond outward actions. It also includes the inward condition of the heart. Jesus explains this in Matthew 5:20-47 when he explains God's full intention for the Old Testament Law.

1st – Jesus gave us God's intention for His command, "Do not commit murder."

The Pharisees taught that murder is taking a human life, but Jesus said we are guilty of murder in God's eyes if we want to kill someone.

2nd – Jesus gave us God's intention for His command, "Do not commit adultery."

The Pharisees taught adultery is having sex with someone other than your spouse, but Jesus said we are guilty of adultery in God's eyes if we want to have sex outside of our marriage.

3rd – Jesus gave us God's intention for divorce. Matthew 5:31-32

The Scribes and Pharisees taught a man could divorce his wife for any reason as long as he gave her a document stating she was divorced. Their wrong view of divorce was based on a wrong interpretation of Deut. 24:1-4.

- Jesus said a husband that divorces his wife, unless she has been unfaithful, causes her to commit adultery.
- Jesus goes into more detail about God's intention for divorce in Matthew 19:3–9.

Jesus reminded the teachers of the Law that, God created marriage to be a lifelong covenant between one man and one woman. Then, Jesus explained Moses created a notice of divorce to protect discarded wives and allow them to remarry without the fear of capital punishment. *Then, Jesus made it clear that...*

- God only permits divorce when a spouse has been unfaithful.

What is God's intention for divorce?

- God permits you to divorce your spouse when they abandon their marriage to become one with another person (See: 1 Corinthians 7:10–11).

You must understand four truths about marriage to fully understand God's view on divorce.

Four Truths About Marriage:

Truth #1: God created marriage so we would not have to journey through life alone. Genesis 2:21-24

Truth #2: God intended marriage to be a lifelong relationship. 1 Corinthians 7:39

Truth #3: God wants married couples to keep working on their relationship. Eph. 5:21-33; Malachi 2:15-16

Some Personal Questions...

1. Do you understand God's intention for marriage?
2. Do you understand God's intention for divorce?
3. Are you doing everything you can to solve the problems in your marriage?