

A misty forest landscape with evergreen and deciduous trees. The scene is hazy, with a soft, blueish-grey light filtering through the foliage. The trees are dense and layered, creating a sense of depth and atmosphere. The overall mood is serene and somewhat somber, fitting the title 'A Home Destroyed'.

A Home Destroyed

“For the Lord God of Israel says that He hates divorce, For it covers one’s garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts. Therefore take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously.”

– Malachi 2:16

The Home's Greatest Threat: Selfishness

- ☀️ “Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.” Colossians 3:19; cf. Ephesians 5:25
- ☀️ Older women were to “admonish the young women to love their husbands” Titus 2:4
- ☀️ “Submitting to one another in the fear of God.” Ephesians 5:21
- ☀️ “Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.” 1 Peter 3:7
- ☀️ Submission of wives to their husbands. Eph. 5:22, 24; Colossians 3:18; 1 Peter 3:1,5

Some Definitions – Marriage

- Marriage – “*Gamos*” – or a form, meaning to take a wife, to give away in marriage, to be given in marriage, to give one’s self in marriage.
- Literally, to give one’s self in a commitment to being united with another person in life as a husband or wife. To be united together both spiritually and physically.
- Genesis 2:24 – “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”

Some Definitions - Fornication

- Fornication – “*Porneia*” – Por-nee-ya — “illicit sexual intercourse” adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, intercourse with animals etc.; sexual intercourse with close relatives; Lev. 18; sexual intercourse with a divorced man or woman; Mk. 10:11,12
- Watch Your Translations: “fornication” “sexual immorality” “immorality” “sexual sin” “terrible thing”
- An umbrella term including the sexual act in various circumstances including but not limited to adultery.
- John 8:40 – “You do the deeds of your father.” Then they said to Him, “We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God.”

Don't Get Confused Here

- Three Ways “Fornication” Is Used In Scripture:
- SPIRITUAL – Worship of idols, idolatry. Isaiah 23:17 – “And it shall be, at the end of seventy years, that the Lord will visit Tyre. She will return to her hire, and commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world on the face of the earth.”
- MENTAL – Matthew 15:19 – “For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts: murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.” cf. Proverbs 23:7
- PHYSICAL – 1 Cor. 5:1 – “It is actually reported *that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles—that a man has his father’s wife!*”
- Context ALWAYS Determines The Meaning

Some Definitions - Adultery

- Adultery – “*moichaeuo*” moy-kaa-oo – To have unlawful intercourse with another’s wife; to be an adulterer
- Literally – The sexual act with someone who is not your wife/husband
- Exodus 20:14 – “You shall not commit adultery.”
- “Adultery” under the old covenant was a capital offense punishable by stoning and death. Lev. 20:10

Don't Get Confused Here

- Three Ways “Adultery” Is Used In Scripture
- SPIRITUAL – of idols, idolatry, cf. Hosea
- MENTAL – Matthew 5:27,28 – “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”
cf. Proverbs 23:7
- PHYSICAL – John 8:3,4 – “Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, they said to Him, ‘Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act.’”
- Context ALWAYS Determines The Meaning

Some Definitions - Divorce

- Divorce – “*aphiemi*” af-ay-may – To put away, give a writing of a divorcement, to send away, to leave the marriage
- 1 Cor. 7:11 – “But even if she does depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to *her* husband. And a husband is not to divorce *his* wife.”
- Determined By The Laws Of The Land
- Caution: When Man’s Laws Conflict With God’s Laws, God’s Law’s Supersede! “We ought to obey God rather than man.” Acts 5:29
- Divorce Is NOT Always Sin – God Hates It (Malachi 2:16), But He Does Allow It Under Certain Circumstances – Sometime Considered Sinful Because Of What It Leads To – cf. Matt. 5:32

What God Wants: Marriage For Life

➤ Jesus On The Subject


“The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for *just* any reason?” And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”

—Matthew 19:3-6

What God Wants: Marriage For Life

- God's Laws Of Marriage Are For All Men For All Time – “He who made them at the beginning...” Matthew 19:4
- Paul On The Subject — “Now to the married I command, *yet* not I but the Lord: A wife is not to depart from *her* husband.” —1 Corinthians 7:10
- Warning: Do Not Take Chances With God!

God's Law On Divorce And Remarriage

- Matthew 19:9 – “And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.”
 - Fornication, (sexual immorality), sex with someone outside the marriage is the only right for divorce and remarriage
 - The guilty offender can be put away, and he/she is not permitted to remarry because any subsequent marriage is adulterous.
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Things To Remember

- Do Not Take Chances With God
 - A Chaste Non-Sexual Life Is Possible
 - Matthew 19:12 – “For there are eunuchs who were born thus from *their* mother’s womb, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven’s sake. He who is able to accept it, let him accept it.” cf. 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Do Not Put God’s People In Jeopardy – cf. 1 Cor. 5:11
- 1 Corinthians 7:15b – “. . . God has called us to peace.”