

The Believer and Divorce

Matthew 19: 1-15

February 12, 2023

Forgiveness

is the key that
unlocks
the door of
resentment
and the
handcuffs
of hatred.

Corrie ten Boom

THE WORD FOR THE DAY



"FORGIVENESS
IS SETTING
THE PRISONER FREE,
ONLY
TO FIND OUT
THAT THE
PRISONER WAS ME."

— CORRIE TEN BOOM
HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

TENBOOM.COM

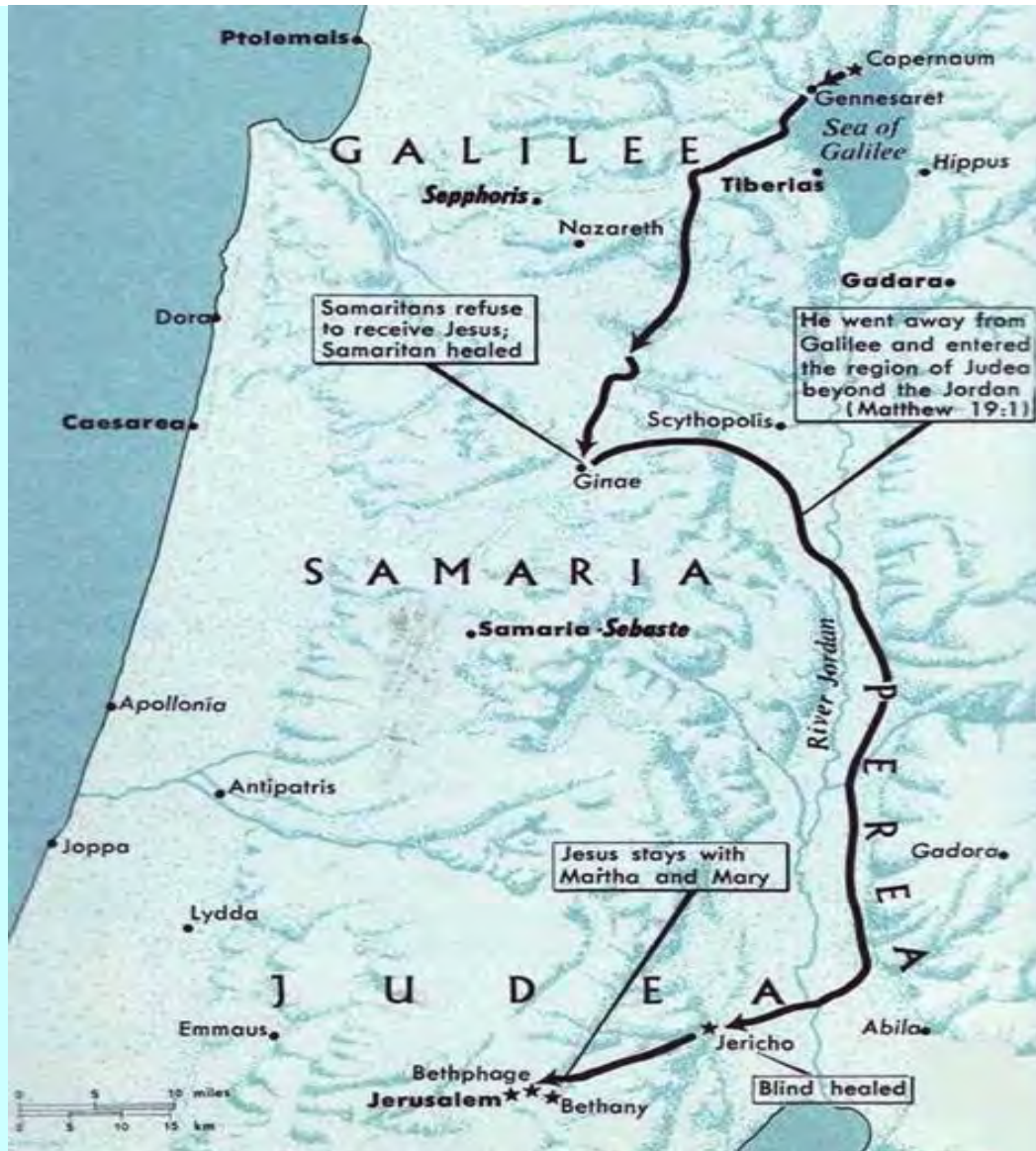


Verse 1 - 2

Jesus leaves Galilee

**It is time for Jesus to make His way to
Jerusalem**

It is a few months prior to the cross



Verse 3

The Pharisee trap

The purpose of the question is to discredit Jesus and to turn the people against Him

Verse 4 - 6

God's plan for marriage – *Permanence*

In typical Jesus fashion, He does not answer the question

Jesus takes these Torah experts back to Genesis (1: 27 and 2: 24)

God made two genders – *male and female*

There must be a DEPARTURE from the parents – “. . . . *a man shall leave his father and mother*”

The two must DEPEND on one another – “. . . . *be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh*”

Ephesians 5:22-24

22 *"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.*

23 *For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and He is the Savior of the body.*

24 *Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every things.*

www.allthingslife.org

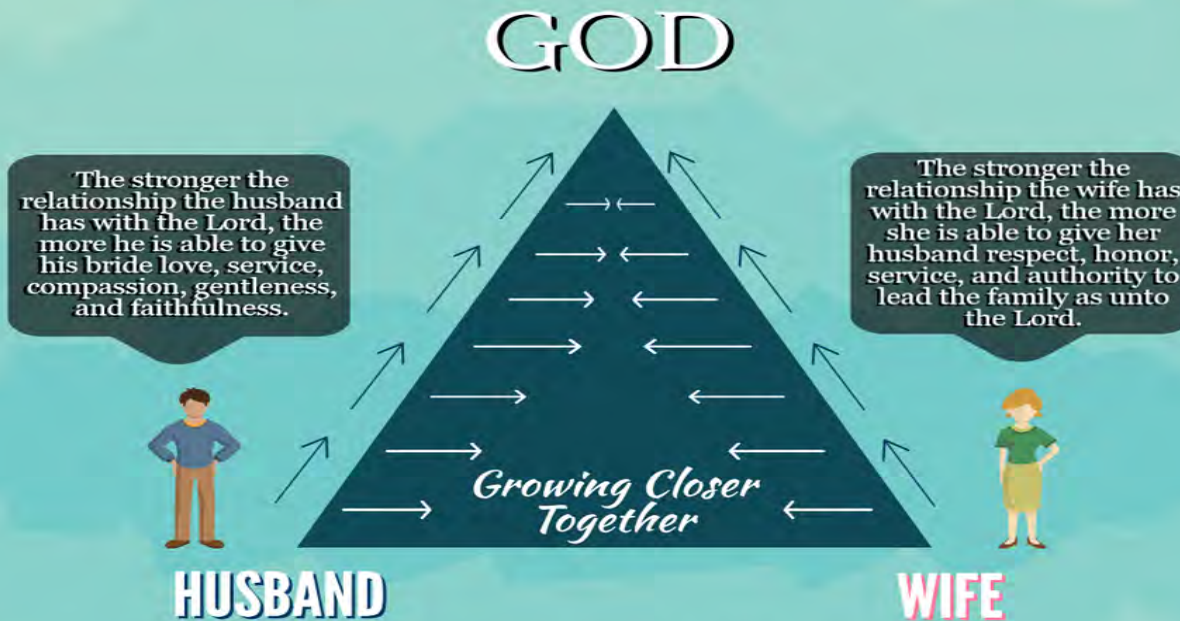
Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the Word.

Ephesians 5:25-26

The marriage covenant is to be **DURABLE**
until death –

*“Therefore, what God has joined
together, let not man separate”*

Closeness with God Closeness with Your Spouse



The closer your relationship is with God, the closer your relationship will be with your spouse.

MARRIAGE

www.LastingMinistry.com

Verse 7 - 9

Jesus on divorce

Jesus made it clear:

Divorce was permitted because of the
“hardness of your hearts”

The only exception clause to no divorce
is *“sexual immorality”* (any sexual act
outside the marriage covenant)

Reasons for divorce in Scripture:

- 1) Death of a spouse ends the marriage covenant
 - 1 Corinthians 7: 39
 - Romans 7: 2
- 2) Sexual immorality
 - Matthew 5: 32
 - Matthew 19: 9
- 3) Desertion of the unbelieving spouse
 - 1 Corinthians 7: 15

Verse 10 - 12

It is easy to miss the point

Disciples think Jesus' parameters are so narrow that it would be better not to marry

Jesus is not saying that celibacy is better than marriage

A life of singleness means a life of celibacy, (*no sex*), to fully dedicate their lives to the service of God

“He who is able to accept it, let him accept it”

Verse 13 - 15

Jesus and the little children

People who come to Christ must come as children, *i.e.*, no position, no status, as a child

To get into the Kingdom, childlike trust and humility are essential!

The tenderness of Jesus:

“He laid His hands on them and departed from there”

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

Cohabitation: Good Idea? [Religion]

(% who strongly and somewhat agree)



Barra n=1,097 | April, 2016

% of those who agree it's a good idea to live with one's significant other before getting married: (% of those who strongly and somewhat agree)



Evangelicals



Born-again



Practicing Christian

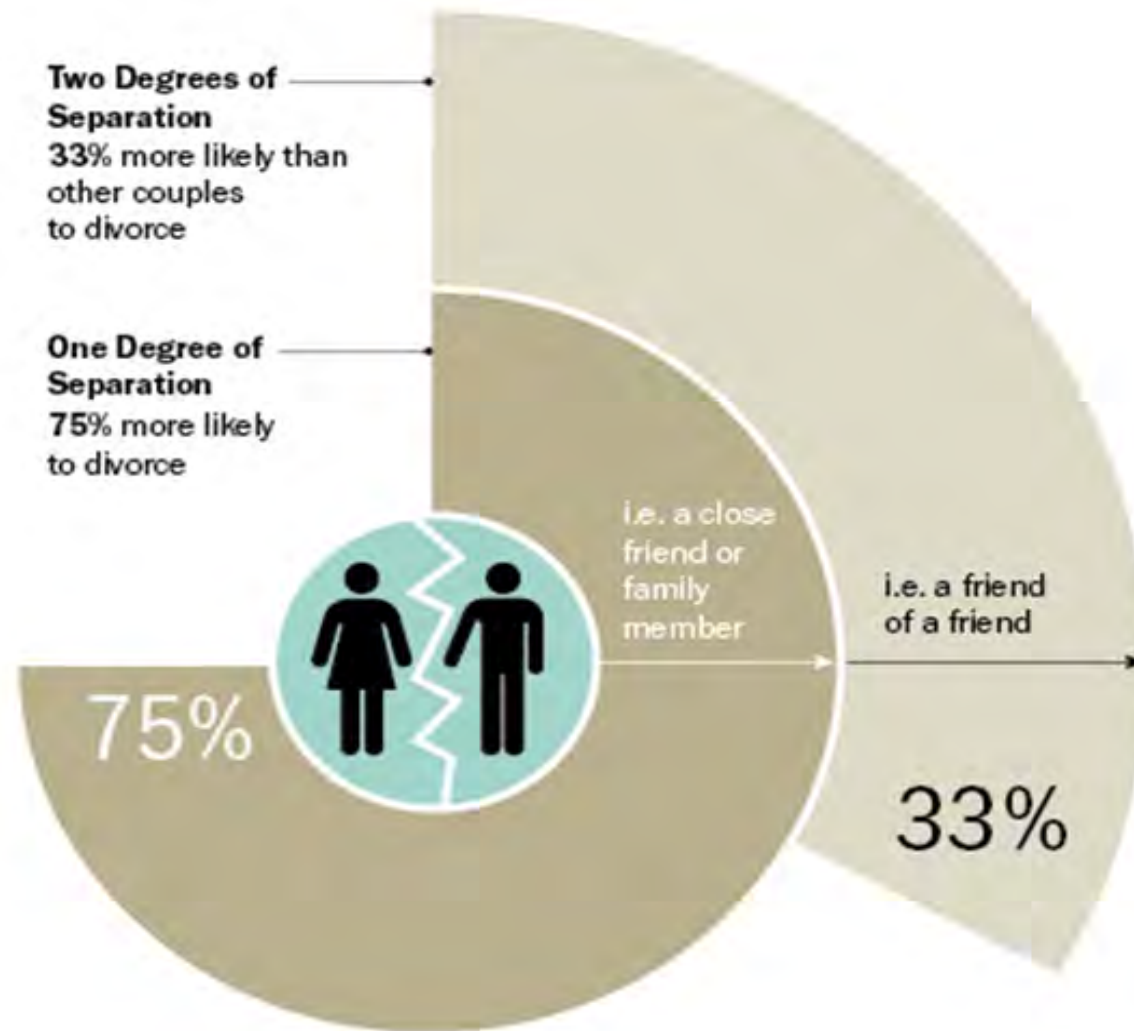


No Faith

Divorce is contagious!

Once divorce is validated in one's mind, it becomes a viable option

Divorce and Degrees of Separation



For those who are active in the Church, the divorce rate is 27-50% lower than non-churched

The family is under attack by the world, the flesh, and the devil!

We are being told that we should enthusiastically dismantle the traditional family

World philosophy, embraced by our self-centered **flesh** nature, promoted by the **devil**, are destroying what God loves and created

What has happened?

1 Timothy 4:1-2 (NKJV)

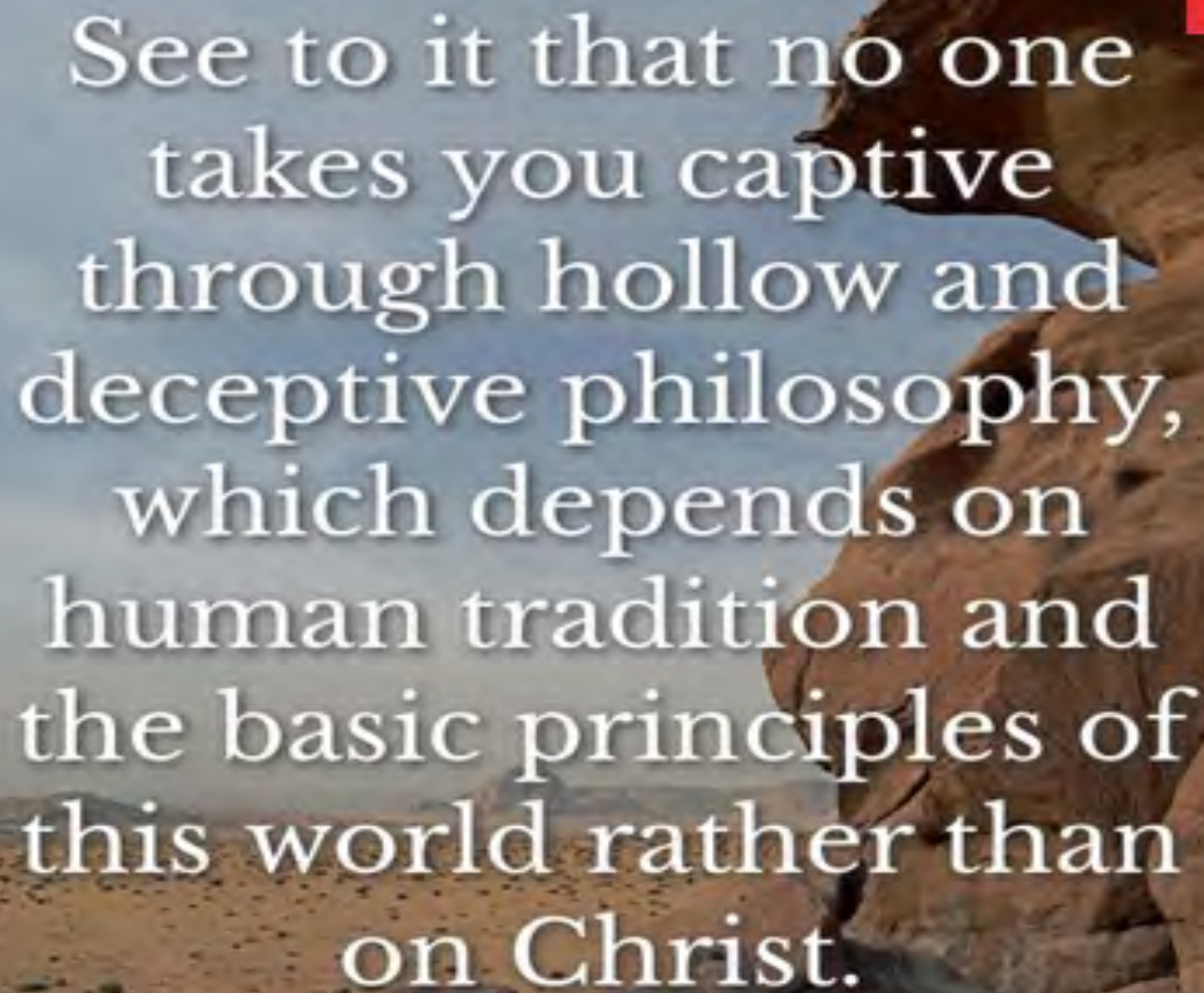
4 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, ² speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

Bob Palmer Octavia Baptist Youth
Ministries

**The gods of this world are here, along with
deceiving spirits, calling good evil and evil
good!**

**These gods demand that you cave to their
philosophies**

DO NOT!!

A desert landscape with a large rock formation in the foreground and a small red sign on the rock. The text is overlaid on the image.

See to it that no one
takes you captive
through hollow and
deceptive philosophy,
which depends on
human tradition and
the basic principles of
this world rather than
on Christ.

Colossians 2:8 NIV1984



What is Philosophy?

Philo + *Sophia* = Love of Wisdom
(love) (wisdom)

There is a systematic movement by the kingdom of darkness to dismantle the family

Divorce is part of that plan!

Fight for your marriage, do whatever you can to make it work!

Do not be quick to say, “*NO MAS*” – *no more!*

Allow the world to see that Christ really does make a difference!

I am not saying, no divorce ever; there are Biblical reasons

I am saying, FIGHT for your marriage, it is a witness to the world that you have been with Jesus!

Proceed slowly and exhaust all options before proceeding with divorce

CALLING ALL JESUS FOLLOWERS
TO FOLLOW JESUS
THE JESUS WAY!

**COME
FOLLOW ME.**



**FOLLOWING
JESUS**

Following Jesus the Jesus Way