

BIBLE TALK OUTLINE

SUNDAY 9th April, 2006

Divorce & Remarriage



Series: Matters of the heart
Reading: Ephesians 5:
Speaker: Neil Atwood

1. God's Intention For Marriage In The OT.

Genesis 2:24

God hates divorce (Malachi 2:13-16)

Deuteronomy 24:1-4 – sexual misconduct can lead to divorce, but...

Ezra 9-10 - divorce is permitted for spiritual reasons (intermarriage with unbelievers)

2. Divorce and re-marriage in the New Testament.

Matthew 5:31-32 – no change to law.

Matthew 19:3-9 – challenge by Pharisees ("what can we get away with?")

John 4 – Samaritan woman.

Jesus does not forbid divorce or re-marriage as such: rather he condemns casual attitudes to divorce. From God's perspective, divorce is always bad.

3. 1 Corinthians 7.

Verses 8-9: Unmarried and widows

Verse 10-11: Married couples

Verse 12-16: Mixed marriages

Verse 17ff Paul encourages all groups not to be caught up in the world.

Verse 27-28: If you are unmarried it is good to stay that way.

4. Conclusion

God's purpose is that marriage be a lifelong, exclusive union, that unites husband and wife physically/sexually, socially, and spiritually.

As a concession to "weak and sinful" men and women, the OT allowed divorce and remarriage.

The N.T. does not change this.

Audio and text of this talk will be available on the Toongabbie Anglican Church web-site shortly. <http://www.toongabbieanglican.org.au>