

### **Divorce and Remarriage (part three of a three part study)**

For those who have offered hypothetical scenarios in defense of their viewpoint which prohibits divorce and remarriage on any grounds whatsoever, I would like to take this opportunity to return the favor.

Consider the following example of two unsaved men. We will call one “The Womanizer,” and the other “The Poor Chump.” The Womanizer engages in his illicit lifestyle of sex with women who are not his wife at a very early age, and pursues his goal of sexual sin with as many women as possible well into adulthood, while never getting married himself. On the other hand, the Poor Chump moves in the opposite direction and marries right out of high school. However, he happens to be a very poor judge of character and marries a woman who would have made Hosea’s wife, Gomer, look like Mother Theresa. Her infidelities are continuous throughout their marriage, which lasts as long as it does due to her husband’s willingness to keep forgiving and coming back for more marital abuse. Finally, his adulterous wife finds a paramour whom she considers worthy to be her next husband, and initiates a divorce with The Poor Chump.

Ironically, both of these men, at the age of forty, experience a conversion to Christ. How is it possible that one conversion experience can set The Womanizer free from all his many fornications, in order to engage in marriage as a Christian; while the Poor Chump’s conversion to Christ prohibits remarriage as an option? **It’s not!**

Why? First, because God is more merciful than that! Second, that isn’t what the Word of God teaches about the impact of salvation upon divorce and remarriage. Our forgiveness by God sets us free from the condemnation of all the previous sins of our unsaved past, while not necessarily eliminating every consequence. For example, a jailhouse conversion doesn’t immediately release the new convert from his prison cell. But since there is no law of the land prohibiting a new marriage after a divorce, placing its citizens in “no remarriage jail;” there is also no need for a contrived law of the church, creating a similar imprisonment. Our new “no condemnation” status in Christ includes the sin of divorce, and sets us free for a new life with our Savior, including the freedom to remarry, if we so choose.

**If you are a Christian who has been hesitant to remarry due to a divorce in your unsaved past, and are intimidated by the narrow minded and unbiblical perspective of many Evangelicals regarding divorce and remarriage, my hope and prayer is that this study, if it hasn’t already, will become an encouragement and blessing to you. (Matthew 20:1-16)**