

## **Sermon Document**

### **Matthew 5:31-32**

#### **A divine romance**

**5/8/2022**

#### **Matthew 5:31-32 ESV**

“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

#### **Matthew 19:1-12 ESV**

Now when Jesus had finished these sayings, he went away from Galilee and entered the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. And large crowds followed him, and he healed them there.

And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful to divorce one’s wife for any cause?” He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.” They said to him, “Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?” He said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery.”

The disciples said to him, “If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry.” But he said to them, “Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given. For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there

are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it.”

**Matthew 19:5 ESV**

and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?

**Deuteronomy 24:1 ESV**

“When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, and she departs out of his house,

**Ephesians 5:22–33 ESV**

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

### Discussion questions:

- ☐ What did God say to you during today's sermon?
- ☐ The Bible describes God's relationship to his people as a marriage (see Eph 5:25-33; Rev 19:7-9). How does this teaching help us understand Jesus's teaching in Matthew better?
- ☐ In what ways is Jesus's prohibition of divorce a good thing for us?
- ☐ Matthew shows the many reasons divorce occurred in the first century. Is our culture more or less like that context in our inclination to divorce? Why or why not?"
- ☐ Jesus teaches that divorce should not be the norm in the Christian community. What can the church do to help marriages last?
- ☐ Jesus's teaching about divorce comes immediately after his teaching about lust. How are these two connected?
- ☐ Place marriage in the Bible's story line. What was God's design for marriage? How has it been twisted by sin? How can Christians bring healing to marriage through the gospel? How will Christ restore marriage completely one day?"

Some questions adapted from :

Exalting Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount

Danny Akin