

Marriage, Divorce, Remarriage

March-May, 2006

The Lord willing, we will study this subject in the auditorium class on Sundays and Wednesdays, beginning March 5 and going through Wednesday, May 31, the Lord willing. The elders believe the subject warrants studying periodically. So, you may have been through this study before. If so, here are some suggestions.

Instead of rewriting the answers, reference your material from past studies and use the additional time you have (by not having to rewrite the answers) to expand your study. Restudy the texts involved and how you responded previously. Do you still agree with what you concluded? Look at the text more thoroughly—context, meaning of words, force of connecting words and logical indicators (e.g., “and,” “but,” “for,” “therefore,” etc.). Compare related Scriptures (law of harmony). This could be a time to pursue answers to questions raised in studying these Scriptures in the past.

The lessons will have some differences from the previous studies. Material will be updated, changed, and added to. However, the bulk of the study will follow the plan of previous studies. Therefore, you may simply want to add the changed and added material in the margin on your previous copies or by inserting additional pages at the appropriate points.

If you like to do your work on a computer, this time through you might want to enter your answers and observations on your computer. An electronic copy of each lesson will be available for download.

Whether you have or have not been in this study before, it will be to your advantage to study the Scriptures cited and their context *before* you come to class and/or *after* the class (Acts 17:11). It's easy to say, “I agree,” or “I disagree”; it's quite a different matter to be able to *show* why you agree or disagree *from the texts*. If we wish, we can find someone who teaches whatever we *want* to believe. But, that won't be of much help when we stand before Christ in judgment! “...if a blind man guides a blind man, BOTH will fall into a pit.” Mt. 15:14. We need to be as certain as we can that our conclusions are supported by honest and accurate interpretation of *Scripture*. “And He [Jesus] said to him, ‘*What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?*’” Luke 10:26. It is a difficult subject, but keep in mind what Paul told the Ephesians about what he wrote to them, “when you read you can understand...” Eph. 3:4.

Feel free to ask questions or make comments. Do not think, however, that all your questions will be answered. Why? *The teacher doesn't know all the answers!* Because we cannot answer every question does not keep us from being able to arrive at any understanding of God's will on this matter. We must base our faith on what we *know*, not what we do *not* know.

We hope you find the study beneficial. If you have suggestions for improving it, please make note of them down so you can share them with the teacher and elders.