

## CAN DIVORCE BE FOR ANY REASON

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Question: Can a man and woman divorce for ANY reason?

Answer: The basic teaching of scripture from the beginning of time regarding marriage has been (and is): One man and one woman for life (read Gen. 2:21-24; Mt. 19:3-6; Rom. 7:2-3; 1 Cor. 7:39).

God has said, *“Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife; and they shall be one flesh”* (Gen. 2:24). Jesus gave one exception for legitimate divorce and marriage to one party within the marriage; that cause is fornication (sexual immorality). The person who divorces his/her mate for the cause of fornication is given the right by Jesus to remarry (read Matt. 19:9; 5:32).

When divorce occurs for any other reason, and remarriage follows, adultery occurs. Also, it is clear that the adulterer is not free to remarry with Christ’s approval from Matthew 19:9. God hates divorce (Mal. 2:16). Men and women are to honor marriage and not put asunder what God joins together (Heb. 13:4; Matt. 19:6).

However, if divorce occurs because one mate commits fornication, God gives the other the right to divorce that mate and remarry. He does not give any right of remarriage to fornicators or to people who are divorced for any other reasons (Mt. 19:9).

When divorce occurs for a reason other than sexual immorality both parties are to *“remain unmarried or be reconciled”* (1 Cor. 7:10-11). The Bible is clear on this matter and should be taken seriously. If more people would obey the Biblical commands for marriage, we would see the number of divorces in our world reduce.

Let’s put the LOCK back in WEDLOCK.