

Issues and Answers

Jesus often used question and answer situations to convey spiritual truths (cp. Matt. 21: 28-32). In fact, it was in a question and answer circumstance involving Jesus that Jesus presented his most detailed teaching on marriage, divorce, and marriage to another (Matt. 19: 3-12). Some pertinent scriptures involved in our questions and answers are: Genesis 2: 21-25; Deuteronomy 24: 1-4; Jeremiah 3: 1, 8; Malachi 2: 14, 15; 2: 16; Matthew 19: 3-12; Mark 10: 11, 12; Luke 16: 18; Romans 7: 2, 3; I Corinthians 7.

"Issues and Answers" is not for the faint of heart. Below are examples of some of the issues we will address during this special session at 3:00 on Sunday.

- Is sexual intercourse a right or a condition of marriage?
- In the Bible, betrothal was marriage, not engagement to be married.
- What is civil government's interest in marriage?
- Common-law marriage in the Bible.
- Is fondling sexual intercourse?
- Why most adulterers in the Old Testament were not stoned to death.
- Was God really loose on divorce in the Old Testament?
- Is the Sermon on the Mount Old a New Testament teaching?
- Is celibacy refraining from sex or refraining from marriage?
- Two problems that have to be worked to resolve any unscriptural divorce and remarriage situation.
- God doesn't hate all divorce, at least equally.
- Must one divorce an impenitent fornicating spouse?
- Every exception clause in the Bible contains a necessary implication
- Is there a "guilty party" in Mt. 5.32 or Mt. 19.9?
- May one guilty party put away another?
- Just how does an unjustly put-away person put away a fornicating spouse?
- Why "whether a put-away fornicator may remarry" is hardly the issue.

- Four questions, which if answered, may lead to solution of every question on marriage, divorce, and remarriage.
- Is divorce and remarriage private or church business?
- Church limitations in dealing with divorce.
- Can a local church study these issues for itself and determine its own conduct on these matters?