

They do this as a matter of salvation (an obligatory matter). Jesus then stated, **“He that is able to receive it, let him receive it”** (i.e., acceptance of this obligatory doctrine will be based upon the spirituality of the person’s heart and will [see number "4" below]).

LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM MATTHEW 19:3-12

1. *Divorce Practice* was not in God’s original intention for marriage (vs. 4-6 & 8b). So, instead of men today complaining, we should be thankful for at least one way out of a corrupted marriage (I Cor.10:13).
2. There is only *one acceptable reason* for a divorce and remarriage among living companions (v. 9). Fornication on the part of one’s companion is that only reason for an acceptable divorce and consequent remarriage.
3. It is possible to *live* in adultery (v. 9). As explained earlier, “committeth adultery” means, “keeps on committing adultery.” Some had “lived” in “fornication” according to Paul in Colossians 3:5-7.
4. Those who are living in an unscriptural (adulterous) marriage *must* repent in order to be pleasing to God. **“It is not lawful for thee to have her”** (Mat. 14:4). Repentance (Mat. 3:8) requires a couple in an unscriptural marriage to discontinue that adulterous union.

Repentance demands “fruits,” “reformation,” “restitution” — so far as is possible: The automobile thief cannot repent and keep the stolen automobile.”¹

Therefore, one must cease to live in sin (adultery), even if it means that one must become a *spiritual eunuch* for the kingdom of God’s sake (Mt. 19:12 & Luke 13:3). “The only way to repent of an adulterous union is to sever it and cease the intimacy.”²

AN EXHORTATION

The subject of Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage involves the deepest of feelings and emotions, but the child of God should *never* disregard the teaching of the Lord because the load of His cross is at times heavy. Christianity tugs at our heart strings for repentance and sets in motion the wheels of obedience. After complete submission the load becomes lighter. All who truly wish to do God’s Will, enter the pearly gates and walk the streets of eternal life will not for any personal “reason” reject the Master’s teaching, but will say with the great apostle Paul:

“I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, and be found in him” (Philippians 3:8-9).

FOOTNOTE

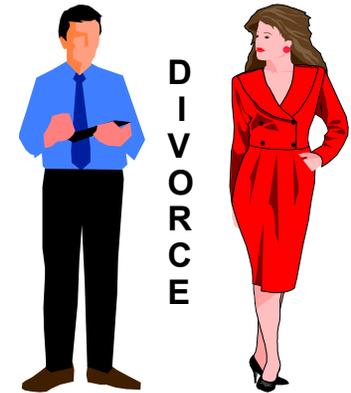
¹ Roy Deaver, from *A Review Of What The Bible Says About Marriage, Divorce And Remarriage* by Olan Hicks - Edited by Thomas F. Eaves, Sr., Year of publication 1979. p. 38. This is an exposure of the false doctrine of Olan Hicks.

² **Is Matthew 19:3–12 Really So Hard To Understand?** Article by Dub McClish.
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Jesus’ Teaching On

Marriage



Remarriage

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