

My Covenant Spouse Divorced Me

May I Marry Another?

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?



Perhaps you think this booklet is about marriage, divorce and second marriages. Is that true? Well, yes and no.

I wrote this booklet to tell others about heaven and how to avoid hell. The Holy Bible explains God's great love for us and how he established marriage and the family as the foundation of society.

My marriage-lifestyle will validate whether I am following Jesus or myself.

There are no accidents with God and he put this booklet in your hands.

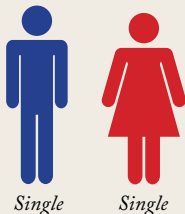
I pray God's blessings be upon you as your read it.

Meet two single people, Bill Blue and Rita Red.

Their story includes seven phases of married life:

- 1) Single
- 2) Covenant Marriage
- 3) Non-Biblical Divorce
- 4) An Adulterous Second Relationship
- 5) Biblical Divorce
- 6) Reconciliation
- 7) Marriage Stander

Their short history is very typical of married life in America and in the church today.



God established marriage.

Rita and Bill, as singles, were each looking for a covenant spouse. After dating others, they found each other. Bill Blue and Rita Red announced their engagement and set a wedding date. Part of their wedding ceremony included these words:

“Dearly Beloved...will you Love, Comfort, Honor and Keep, for Richer or Poorer, in Sickness and in Health, and Forsaking every other, Until Death Do You Part?”

Bill and Rita each vowed to one another, “I Do,” before God and their guests.

The ceremony ended with this announcement: “Introducing Mr. and Mrs. Bill Blue.”

A few years later God blessed Bill and Rita with two children.



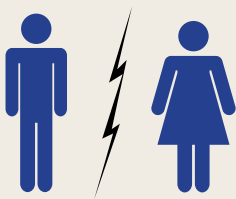
Covenant Marriage

One day Bill Blue told his wife, Rita, that he did not love her anymore. He held a selfish view of marriage, only thinking of himself. Bill filed for a Non-Biblical Divorce.

What would cause such rebellion against God and one's covenant spouse?

James 1:13-15 explains in v. 13, *“Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14. But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed. 15. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”*

What guidance does God give in I Corinthians 7:10-11 to Bill and Rita as a divorced couple? God provides only two options: (1) either remain unmarried (separated), or (2) be reconciled to one another by



Non-Biblical Divorce

returning to your covenant spouse: 10. *“And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: 11. But and if she depart, (1) let her remain unmarried [be a Marriage Stander and lift up a standard, Isaiah 59:19], or (2) be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away [divorce] his wife.”*

Divorce (or separation) is not Adultery, but second “marriage” is, according to Jesus’ words in Luke 16:18, *“Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery.”*

Q. How many times did Jesus say an “adulterous marriage” was a marriage? A. Zero.

Q. How many times did Jesus say an “adulterous marriage” was Adultery? A. Eight.

How many times does Jesus need to say something to make it true?



Marriage Stander

Bill Blue marries Gloria Green, a divorcee with two children. This is Adultery.

Bill Blue now has two wives: the first, from a Covenant Marriage until death with Rita (Red) Blue; the second, a Non-Biblical Marriage with Gloria Green.

Who says so? God. According to God's Word, Mr. Blue and Mrs. Green are living in Adultery as recorded in Luke 16:18a, "*Whosoever* [Bill Blue] *putteth away his wife* [Rita Blue], *and marieth another*, [Mrs. Green] *committeth adultery* (since Gloria Green was a divorcee from her covenant husband, Gary Green (still living))." God explains in Romans 7:3a, "*So then if, while her husband* [Mr. Green] *liveth, she* [Mrs. Green] *be married to another man* [Bill Blue], *she shall be called an adulteress.*"



*Bill Blue and Gloria Green
in Adultery*

Not to be outdone, Rita Blue “marries” Joe Yellow a widower with two children. Her second “marriage” is adultery.

Now Rita (Blue) Yellow has two husbands: the first, her Covenant Marriage with Bill Blue until death; the second, a Non-Biblical marriage with widower Joe Yellow.

Who says so? God.

This is based on Jesus’ words in Luke 16:18b, *“And whosoever [the widower Joe Yellow] marrieth her [Rita Blue] that is put away from her husband [Mr. Blue, by divorce] committeth adultery [with Mr. Yellow].”*

According to God’s Word, Joe Yellow and Rita (Blue) Yellow are living in Adultery.



*Joe Yellow and Rita Blue
in Adultery*

When the Three Family Units Get Together, They Look Like This:



*Joe Yellow and Rita Red (Blue) (Yellow) in Adultery
Bill Blue and Gloria (Green) Blue in Adultery*



HIS

*Mr. Yellow's
children
from his
Covenant
Marriage*

OURS

*Mr. and
Mrs. Blue's
children
from their
Covenant
Marriage*

HERS

*Mrs. Green's
children
from her
Covenant
Marriage*

And we wonder why our children are confused about God's marriage laws.

Bill Blue and Gloria (Green) Blue, giving the appearance of being “good” Christians, attend their local church. A new pastor came to this church.

The new pastor’s name is Tom. As Pastor Tom gradually became part of the church family and the community, he discovered that the two children who attend church with Bill and Gloria Blue are really Gary and Gloria Green’s children from a divorce which Gloria initiated. During Pastor Tom’s visit with Bill and Gloria, Tom learned that Bill’s children are living with Rita (Blue) Yellow. Bill said he initiated their divorce after which Rita entered into an adulterous relationship with Joe Yellow. Pastor Tom visited Gary Green, a Stander for his covenant wife Gloria. Pastor Tom was troubled by one comment Gary made while they talked in Gary’s apartment. “Bill Blue stole my wife.”

Pastor Tom headed back to his office with his head spinning. He kept thinking, “If Gary had said, ‘Bill Blue stole and is keeping my car,’ would I get involved? YES. So what am I going to do about Bill Blue divorcing his wife Rita and Gloria Green divorcing her husband Gary and marrying each other? Biblically, they are living in adultery, according to Luke 16:18 and Romans 7:3.”

Pastor Tom went back to his church office, instructed his secretary to hold his calls, shut his office door, got on his knees, and cried out to the Lord.

“Lord I know you called me to love and be a pastor to this flock. I need your help.”

- 1. In the last week, he learned that Bill Blue, one of the leaders in his fellowship, had divorced his wife Rita.*
- 2. About the same time, Gloria Green divorced Gary Green. Soon Bill Blue and Gloria Green married and then defended their “adulterous marriage” saying, “if it were wrong, our former pastor would not have ‘married’ us.” Now Gary Green lives in an apartment and continues to wear his wedding ring. He is a Marriage Stander and lifts up a standard for his Covenant Marriage to Gloria. Gloria Green now lives in an adulterous relationship with Bill Blue.*
- 3. Joe Yellow, a widower, is eligible to marry, BUT NOT RITA BLUE, BECAUSE she is already in a Covenant Marriage with Bill Blue until death. Sadly, Rita recently entered into an adulterous relationship with Joe Yellow. Rita believes her so-called second “marriage” is Biblical because Joe’s pastor performed the wedding ceremony.*

Pastor Tom felt led of the Spirit to list definitions of key words used in teaching on marriage.

Single. Three types. 1) A never married person; 2) A widow or widower from a Covenant Marriage; 3) An individual who has gotten a Biblical Divorce; (see definition below).

Fornication. Sexual relations between single people.

Adultery. Divorcing a covenant spouse and marrying another person. Sexual relations with someone else's covenant spouse.

Covenant Marriage. Three types. 1) First time marriage for both the man and women, 2) one or both are widowed, and 3) one or both have repented of and ended an adulterous "marriage" with a Biblical Divorce.

Adulterous Marriage. A marriage where either the man or the woman has a spouse from a previous covenant marriage that is still living.

Non-Biblical Divorce. A divorce of a Covenant Marriage.

Biblical Divorce. A God-approved divorce from an illegal or Adulterous Marriage.

Marriage Stander. An individual who remains single while his/her spouse is living, but divorced/separated from a covenant spouse. Lifting up a STANDARD, Isaiah 59:19.

Repent/Repentance. Turn from sin and turn to God.

After praying and fasting, Pastor Tom felt led to teach about the permanency of marriage.

Tom met with Bill and Gloria. The first two lessons were from Malachi and Genesis.

In Malachi 2:14-17, God says marriage is a covenant and not a contract.

14. *“...Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy COVENANT. 15. And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. 16. For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit that ye deal not treacherously. 17. Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgement?”*

GENESIS 1-2, in the beginning God created heaven, earth, man, and the first marriage.

Day One. God created light and divided day and night.

Day Two. God created the firmament and divided the water from water.

Day Three. God divided water and land and planted fruit trees and grass.

Day Four. God created lights and divided day from the night.

Day Five. God filled the water with whales and the land with animals and winged birds.

Day Six. God brought forth cattle and made man (Adam) in His image and His likeness.

Genesis 1:31. *“And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.”*

Day Seven. The heavens and the earth were finished and God rested from creation.

God asked Adam to name the animals. God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam and took one of Adam's ribs and made a woman (Eve). God brought her to Adam and **performed the first one-flesh marriage.**

During his next visit with Bill and Gloria, Pastor Tom shared Bible passages on marriage, confirming God's standard for marriage. He included the following eight points:

1. *Matthew 19:1-8. Jesus says, two become one. Divorce is caused by hard hearts.*
2. *Mark 10:11-12. Jesus says putting away and marrying another while your covenant spouse is living is Adultery.*
3. *Luke 16:18. Jesus says putting away and marrying another is Adultery. This includes the innocent spouse if he/she marries another, even after the covenant spouse divorces and marries someone else.*
4. *Romans 7:1-3. Jesus states only death dissolves a Covenant Marriage. The Holy Bible clearly states a Covenant Marriage ends only with the death of a spouse.*

We know Jesus (God) cannot tell a lie. A second "marriage" is Adultery if either the man or the woman has a living mate from a previous Covenant Marriage. Galatians 5:19-21 says Adultery is "*works of the flesh*" and adulterers "*shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*"

How long does God say a Covenant Marriage is in effect?

5. *I Corinthians 7:10–11. If divorced, there are only two options: (1) remain unmarried, or (2) reconcile with your “covenant-until-death” spouse.*
6. *I Corinthians 7:39. Your Covenant Marriage lasts as long as your spouse lives.*

Numbers seven and eight below list unscriptural teachings about marriage:

7. *I Corinthians 7:15. “But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.” Some churches wrongly teach if a spouse departs, a second “marriage” is okay; but this TEACHING violates many Bible passages, including 1 Corinthians 7:39 in the same chapter, as well as numbers 1–6 above.*
8. *Matthew 19:9. “And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, [premarital sex] and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away [divorced] doth commit adultery.* Jesus was referring to the Jewish betrothal period, (like our engagement period). Some churches wrongly teach that Jesus made an “exception” to a marriage lasting “until death.” This too violates numbers 1–6 above.

The divorce rate was less than 2% for 1,950 years after Jesus was on the earth. Now it's 45%. WHY?

Next, Pastor Tom showed Bill and Gloria a recap of early church history.

Every early church father, **without exception**, taught a marriage lasts until death.

Hermas (A.D. 90) If a husband divorces his wife because she is adulterous, he must not “marry” a second wife.

Justin Martyr (A.D. 151) Whoever marries a divorced person commits Adultery. Those in an adulterous marriage are sinning against God.

Clement of Alexandria (A.D. 208) A second “marriage” while a former spouse is alive, is living in a state of Adultery, which is expressly forbidden in Scripture.

Origen (A.D. 248) A second “marriage” is not an actual marriage, but disguised Adultery.

Basil the Great (A.D. 375) An adulterous relationship is continuous Adultery, not a one-time sin.

Ambrose of Milan (A.D. 387) It is forbidden by God for a spouse to divorce and marry another.

Jerome (A.D. 396) A marriage is for life, and no matter what a spouse turns out to be, the covenant remains in effect. God does not divide a one-flesh relationship.

Augustine (A.D. 419) It never has been lawful, and it never will be, to divorce and marry another.

Tom believes the 6,646 divorces per day in America are a major factor in child abuse.

The following statistics are from the book, Divorce and Remarriage. The Trojan Horse Within the Church, by Joseph A. Webb, Th.D., Ph.D. and Patricia L. Webb, Ph.D:

Childhood Trauma. Almost half of all children will witness a parent's second "marriage."

Financial. Each divorce costs the government approximately \$30,000. Why? There is an increase in food assistance, public housing costs, and juvenile delinquency.

Suicide. Divorced individuals are 300% more likely to die of suicide.

Crime. Seventy-two percent of incarcerated juveniles are from BROKEN homes.

Education. The number one factor that keeps children from doing well in school is BROKEN homes. They are twice as likely (that is 200%) to drop out of school.

Illegitimacy. Girls raised in broken homes are over two-and-a-half times (that is 250%) more likely to bear children without being married.

Blended Families. Children in blended families perform worse, on average, than children living in a single-parent home.

Pastor Tom shows Bill and Gloria how our Holy Bibles have been changed.

The Greek word “porneia” in Matthew 19:9 was consistently translated as “fornication” (pre-marital sex by a single person) from the first century A.D. until 1946, seventy-five generations after Jesus was on the earth.

The examples below demonstrate the consistency of Bible translators and the Bible translations of “porneia” in Matthew 19:9 for almost 20 centuries.

The 425 Latin Vulgate translated “porneia” as *“fornicationem.”*

The 1395 Wycliffe Bible translated “porneia” as *“fornication.”*

The 1525 Tyndale Testament translated “porneia” as *“fornication.”*

The 1568 Bishop’s Bible translated “porneia” as *“fornication.”*

The 1611 King James Bible translated “porneia” as *“fornication.”*

The 1901 American Standard translated “porneia” as *“fornication.”*

Compare the changes in translation of the Greek word “*porneia*” in Matthew 19:9 after 1946.

In 1946, the first modern Bible, the Revised Standard Version (RSV) broke new ground and translated “*porneia*” as “*unchastity.*”

In 1960, the New American Standard Version (NASV) translated “*porneia*” as “*immorality.*”

In 1973, the New International Version (NIV) translated “*porneia*” as “*unfaithfulness.*”

In 1984, the NIV changed “*porneia*” to “*marital unfaithfulness.*” WHY?

In 2011 the NIV changed “*porneia*” to “*sexual immorality.*” WHY?

In 1982, the New King James Version (NKJV) translated “*porneia*” as “*sexual immorality*” but footnoted it as “fornication.” WHY?

In 1995, the New Living Bible (NLB) translated “*porneia*” to “*unfaithful*” (from “fornication” in 1971).

In 2005, the Holman Minister’s Bible (HMB) translated “*porneia*” as “*sexual immorality.*”

WHY do modern translators use unchastity, immorality, unfaithfulness, marital unfaithfulness, and sexual immorality—words that imply Adultery—but never call it Adultery?

Pastor Tom explained REPENTANCE is often overlooked for those wanting to go to heaven.

Below are a few Scripture passages demonstrating that God requires repentance (stopping and turning away from sin) as part of believing and putting our trust in Jesus:

Jesus preached REPENTANCE in Matthew 4:17b, *“Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”* In Matthew 9:13b, Jesus stated, *“...for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”*

John the Baptist preached REPENTANCE in Matthew 3:2, *“And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”* Luke 3:3 states, *“...preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.”*

Peter preached REPENTANCE in Acts 3:19, *“Repent ye therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out.”*

Jesus’ disciples preached REPENTANCE in Mark 6:12, *“And they went out, and preached that men should repent.”*

Pastor Tom explained the difference between “Confession of Sin” and “Repentance.”

1. *A thief said, “I stole some of your property, and I am sorry.” Some think this thief just repented.*

Not True. *What happened is only a confession of sin. Repentance does not occur until the stolen property is returned or an explanation is given as to why the thief cannot return the stolen property and an agreement is reached.*

2. *An individual who has a living covenant spouse, enters an adulterous relationship and later realizes the second so-called “marriage” was wrong and adulterous in God’s eyes and says, “I recently asked my covenant spouse to forgive me for divorcing her. I said I was sorry for what I did.” Some would believe this person just repented.*

Not True. *What just happened is only a confession of sin. Repentance will not occur until this person stops his current, sexually illicit, adulterous relationship with someone else’s spouse and becomes a Stander for his Covenant Marriage.*

3. *A pastor, who officiated a “wedding,” wherein one or both parties are already in a Covenant Marriage and later realizes the error of endorsing, approving and facilitating the resulting adulterous second “marriage,” could say, “God, I now realize I should not have officiated this second ‘marriage.’ I was an accomplice to sin and I am sorry.” Some would believe this pastor just repented.*

Not True. *What just happened is a confession*

of sin. Since the pastor officiated a Non-Biblical marriage, and not a God-approved marriage, and because the sin was a public event, A PUBLIC REPENTANCE IS REQUIRED. This will not occur until this pastor does three things:

- (1) Asks forgiveness of the couple, when possible.
- (2) Makes a statement at a public meeting (could be in his/her church), asking for their forgiveness. If the pastor fails to repent or secretly repents only to God, the public could still believe second marriages have God's approval.
- (3) Continues a ministry practice that supports his repentance.

To validate repentance, stolen property must be returned, adulterous relationships must be stopped, and apologizing for marrying someone that is already married must occur. Without action, words mean nothing. Matthew 7:21, *“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”* What does God mean by “but he that “doeth”?

Over the next few months, Pastor Tom met separately several times with Bill and Gloria (Green) Blue, with Joe and Rita (Red) (Blue) Yellow, and with Gary Green sharing truth from God's Word and praying for the Holy Spirit to open their hearts to God's marriage truth.

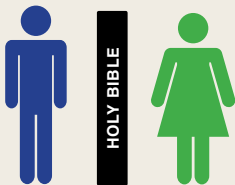
Tom encouraged each person to personalize John 3:16, *"For God so loved the world [your name], that he gave his only begotten Son [to pay for my sins], that whosoever [your name] believeth in him should not perish [in hell], but have everlasting life [in heaven]."*

GOOD NEWS. Pastor Tom's teaching from I Corinthians 6:9-10 on the permanency of marriage was used of God for Bill Blue and Gloria (Green) Blue to understand they were living in Adultery with someone else's spouse. After researching scripture, Bill Blue and Gloria Green Blue each repented, turned from their sin and stopped their adulterous relationship by getting a "Biblical Divorce." Gloria changed her name back to her covenant name Green. They each vowed to be a Stander or reconcile with their covenant mate, if possible.

The author has met many couples who were living in an adulterous second or third "marriage" who, after reading the Holy Bible, filed for a "Biblical Divorce" (review page 10) and are now living as a Marriage Stander or have remarried their covenant spouse.

SAD NEWS. Pastor Tom told Gary Green that Gloria Green, his covenant wife and Bill Blue were getting a Biblical Divorce because they recently learned they were living in Adultery. Still in pain, Gary Green's response was, "Gloria divorced me. I'm not sure I want her back."

God asks His children to forgive others so they will experience God's forgiveness. Matthew 6:14-15 says, *"For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."*



Biblical Divorce

How can I have my sins forgiven so that I can go to Heaven?

John 14:6. *“Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father [God], but by me.”*

Romans 3:23. *“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”*

Matthew 4:17. *“From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”*

Romans 10:13. *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”*

Act 2:38. *“...Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...”*

Believe Jesus loves you, died, was buried, and rose again bodily to pay the penalty for your sins. To be saved means to tell God in a simple prayer: (1) You believe these things, and (2) You turn away from sin (repent) and call on Jesus to save you. (3) Be obedient in baptism. Pray something like this: “Dear God, I know I am a sinner and choose to turn away from my sins. I ask for your forgiveness. I trust your Son, Jesus Christ, as my Lord and Savior, and I choose to obey Him.”

Three steps to growing closer to God: 1) Read your Holy Bible every day. 2) Talk to God every day in prayer. 3) Join a church home where you can be baptized, worship, and where the Holy Bible is the final authority.



For more than 20 years, the author of this booklet has written many articles, pamphlets and books on the permanency of marriage. This offer has been included in more than 10,000 copies: “I will give \$1,000 to you or the church of your choice, if you can show from my Holy Bible, where a divorced person, with a living covenant spouse, can marry another without violating Scripture.” In over 20 years I have received no challenges. This tells me my writings on the permanency of marriage are Biblically correct.

More information on the permanency of marriage is available online in e-book and video form. For a free, postage-paid book, CD and DVD on marriage; or additional copies of this booklet, visit marriagestanders.com.

A popular song for many generations is:

Give Me That Old Time Religion

It was good for the prophet Daniel,

It was tried in the fiery furnace,

It was good for Paul and Silas,

It was good for my father,

It's good enough for me!

This booklet summarizes what was taught about marriage, divorce and marrying again in seminaries, churches and by pastors from Jesus time until the mid-1950's. The author says, **"It's (still) good enough for me!"**

The author may be contacted at mldoctor@aol.com.

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mldoctor@aol.com

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