

2012 Series “Advice On Marriage” (#05) “Marital Separation & Reconciliation”

During the month of March, all my lessons will be taken from 1 Corinthians Ch.7.

Paul designed the special phrase, **Now Concerning**, to divide chs.7-16 into four sections (1 Cor.7:1; 8:1; 12:1; and 16:1). This special phrase was used to address specific problems about which the church leaders had written – “Now concerning the things about which you wrote.” (1 Cor.7:1)

Paul addressed at least the following ten problems regarding marriage in ch.7.

(1 Cor.7:1-2)	Introduction	(1 Cor.7:12-16)	Unequally Yoked and Divorce
(1 Cor.7:1-2)	Pre-marital Sex	(Matt.19:1-9)	Divorce and Remarriage
(1 Cor.7:7-9)	SEX: Widowed and Divorced	(1 Cor.7:17-24)	Status Quo
(1 Cor.7:3-6)	Marital Sex	(1 Cor.7:25-28)	Christian Virginity
(1 Cor.7:10-11) Separation and Reconciliation			

We will offer four doctrinal answers to this problem.

1. We will begin by examining our lesson text by the following five homiletical points (Cor.7:10-11).

- **Married** (gameo) (perf.a.ptc.dplm)
 - “Until death due us part” (Rom.7:2).
- **Message** (paraggello) (p.a.ind.1ps)
 - “Not I, but the Lord” (Matt.5:31-32; 19:3-12).
- **Ministry** (me chorizo) (a.p.infin) [The Wife]
 - To the wife: (1 Pet.3:1-6; Gal.5:1, 13) “But if (3cc) she leaves (chorizo / a.P.subj)” Note the use of passive voice (the wife feels she is being forced out of options).
- **Mandate** (meno agamos) (p.a.impv.3ps) [command]
 - _____ or else katallasso (a.P.impv.3ps) [command] _____ “Cast all your anxiety on Christ”
 - (1 Pet.1:6-7; 5:6-10). Note the use again of passive voice (submit to this command of reconciliation).
- **Man-up** (me aphiemi) (p.A.infin) [The Husband]
 - “Love your wives just as Christ also” (Eph.5:23, 25, and 29). **How?**
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

2. Let me emphasize an important point regarding this statement, “I give instructions, not I, but the Lord.” (Cor.7:1, 10)

One of the best ways for a believer to receive biblical marital counseling is by attending the assembly teaching of the word of God.

(Heb.10:25) “Not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.”

Of course, it is not the only way to receive biblical counseling on marriage (John 4/ market place)

(John 4:16-18) “Go, call your husband, and come here.” The woman answered and said, ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said to her, ‘You have well said, ‘I have no husband; for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly.’” (John 4:29, 39, 42)

The point is that biblical marital counseling is necessary to coach you through marital conflict. It requires a doctrinal and spiritual solution.

(Heb.3:12-14) “He (Jesus) said to them (Pharisees), ‘Because of your hardness of hearts, Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way.” (Matt.19:8)

(Matt.19:6b) “What therefore God has joined together, **let no one separate** (me chorizo / p.a.impv.3ps).” (1 Cor.7:10)

3. The Christian wife is instructed to NOT LEAVE her marriage (me chorizo / a.P.infin) [passive] and her husband is instructed to NOT SEND HER AWAY (me aphiemi / p.A.infin) [active].

In our lesson text, the Greek word for leaving is given to the wife (**chorizo**), but a different word is given to the husband (**aphiemi**) in (1 Cor.7:10-11).

We have seen Jesus use **chorizo** (**leaving**) as a technical doctrinal term involving separation or divorce in (Matt.19:6b); (1 Cor.7:10-11, 15) (1 Pet.3:1-6).

Paul also used **aphiemi** (**send away**) as a technical doctrinal term involving marital separation not divorce (1 Cor.7:11-13). The Christian husband holds the position of the divinely delegated authority in the divine chain of command (1 Cor.11:3; 1 Pet.3:7).

The standard doctrinal Greek term Jesus used for divorce is **apoluo** (Matt.5:31-32; 19:7-10; Mark 10:1-12; Luke 16:18).

4. The Christian husband and wife are instructed to bring the divine institution of marriage into the likeness of Christ and the church in the world.

(Matt.19:4-6) “Have you not read, that He who created them **from the beginning** made them male and female, and said, ‘for this cause a man will leave his father and mother and **shall cleave to his wife**; and **the two shall become one flesh?**’ Consequently, they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate (me chorizo).”

Another word of God FROM THE BEGINNING:

(Gen.3:16) “To the woman He said, ‘I will greatly multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children; Yet your desire (teshuqah) [intense craving] will be for your husband and **he shall rule over** (mashal / kal impf) you.’” [Reproduction; romance; and rule]

NOTE:

- Single Christians must guard their infatuations and affections regarding romance (Prov.4:23); (Rom.6:18-7:1).
- Christian men do not have this same intense emotional craving because not their (arar) curse.

How do we achieve and continue this CLEAVING in ONE as a married couple?

Paul gives the answer in (Eph.5:23-33) and (Col.3:18-19).

To the Wife:

(Eph.5:22) “Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.”

(Eph.5:24) “Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.”

(Eph.5:33b) “The wife must respect her husband.”

(Col.3:18) “Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”

To the Husband:

(Eph.5:23) “For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.”

(Eph.5:25-29) “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her (26) to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, (27) and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. (28) In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. (29) After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church.”

(Eph.5:33a) “However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself”

(Col.3:19) “Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.”

Marriage

(Eph.5:30-32) “for we are members of his body. (31) "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." (32) **This** is a profound mystery--but I am talking about Christ and the church.”