



Bible verses related to *adultery and divorce*

Adultery defined

One person married but having sex with someone else, such as lust of others spouse; indulge illicit lust; giving yourself to illicit sex without payment; gratify illicit sex of the homosexual or the heterosexual; provoking incest; unfaithfulness to God.

Adultery not allowed among believers.

1. Exodus 20:14

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Whoever marries one put away, commits adultery.

2. 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.

Most religious leaders of Jesus' day permitted a man to divorce his wife for nearly any reason. Jesus' teaching about divorce went beyond Moses' (Deuteronomy 24:1-4). Stricter than any of the then-current schools of thought, Jesus' teachings shocked his hearers (see Matthew 19:10) just as they shake today's readers. Jesus says in no uncertain terms that marriage is a lifetime commitment. To leave your spouse for another person may be legal, but it is adultery in God's eyes. As you think about marriage, remember that God intends it to be a permanent commitment.

He who commits adultery destroys his own soul.

3. Proverbs 6:32

But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he [that] doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

Some people argue that it is all right to break God's law against sexual sin if nobody gets hurt. In truth, somebody always gets hurt. In the case of adultery, spouses are devastated and children are scarred.

Whoever marries her that is divorced commits adultery.

4. Matthew 5:32

But I say unto you, that whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

Jesus said that divorce is not permissible except for unfaithfulness. This does not mean that divorce should automatically occur when a spouse commits adultery. The word translated "unfaithful" implies a sexually immoral lifestyle, not a confessed and repented act of adultery. Those who discover that their partner has been unfaithful should first make every effort to forgive, reconcile, and restore their relationship. We are always to look for reasons to restore the marriage relationship rather than for excuses to leave it.

If the woman's husband is dead, she is free to remarry.

5. Romans 7:3

So then if, while [her] husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.

Paul uses marriage to illustrate our relationship to the law. When a spouse dies, the law of marriage no longer applies. Because we have died with Christ, the law can no longer condemn us. Since we are united with Christ, his Spirit enables us to produce good deeds for God. We now serve God, not by obeying a set of rules, but out of renewed hearts and minds that overflow with love for him.

Take heed that you deal not treacherously.

6. Malachi 2:16

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.

"Guard your heart; remain loyal to the wife of your youth" means to have the same commitment to marriage that God has to his promises for his people. Our passion should be reserved exclusively for our spouse.

Love your wife that she may reference her husband.

7. Ephesians 5:33

Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife [see] that she reverence [her] husband.

The union of husband and wife merges two persons in such a way that little can affect one without also affecting the other. Oneness in marriage does not mean losing your personality in the personality of the other. Instead, it means caring for your spouse as you care for yourself, learning to anticipate his or her needs, helping the other person become all he or she can be.

If a woman shall put away her husband, she commits adultery.

8. Mark 10:11-12

And he saith unto them, whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. [12] And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery.

Jesus was often criticized for spending too much time with the wrong people—children, tax collectors, and sinners (Matthew 9:11; Luke 15:1, 2; 19:7). Some, including the disciples, thought Jesus should be spending more time with important leaders and the devout because this was the way to improve his position and avoid criticism. But Jesus didn't need to improve his position. He was God, and he wanted to speak to those who needed him most.

To feel secure, all children need is a loving look and gentle touch from someone who cares. They believe us because they trust us. Jesus said that people should trust in him with this kind of childlike faith.

God will judge whoremongers and adulterers.

9. Hebrews 13:4

Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

Giving honor to marriage will require the utmost in Christian conviction and sensitivity. Modern social theory may redefine the family, and the new definitions may be far from its biblical foundation. What can you do? Witness to the depth of God's love for you by keeping your marriage happy and strong. Remain faithful—in body and in mind. Pray for your spouse.

Whoever puts away his wife and marries another commits adultery.

10. Mark 10:11

And he saith unto them, whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her.

God allowed divorce as a concession to people's sinfulness. Unfortunately, the Pharisees used Deuteronomy 24:1 as a proof text for the sanctioning of divorce. Jesus explained that divorce was not God's ideal; instead, God wants married people to consider their marriage permanent. Don't enter marriage with the option of getting out.

Prayer for deliverance and praise*

Pray with authority.

In Jesus name, today I reclaim my marriage for Christ. No man, no woman, no demon and no stronghold will separate what God has brought together.

With authority and faith in the blood of Jesus, I command you Satan to get your hands off of my marriage!

Foul spirit of adultery I command that you to leave. The powers of Satan were broken at the cross of Christ.

I now cover my marriage, our home, our family and all that we have under the blood of Jesus Christ.

I claim complete restoration for my home, my family and my marriage. I speak healing for this marriage.

Lord I ask that you would bring your healing touch upon our relationship. I pray all this in Jesus name. Amen

References.

Holy Bible: King James Translation

Additional comments and charts are taken from: *Life Application Study Bible*. Illinois: Tyndale House 2007. Print