

**GROWING KINGDOM FAMILIES**  
**Sermon 12: Dealing With Divorce Sermon Notes**

by Dr. Tim Cox, Pastor  
Liberty Baptist Church, Chelsea, Alabama

**Series:** Growing **Kingdom** Families

**Text:** Matthew **19:1-12**

**Subject:** Divorce

**Title:** "Dealing With Divorce"

**Notes:**

- In the U.S., there are **1 million+** divorces each year
- One out of every **2** marriages ends in **divorce**
- We are forced today to face the fact that the **marriage** bond that is **holy** and **sacred** is being ruptured at an incredible rate.
- We have two **choices**—either we listen to the world's **opinion** or the **God's** Word.
- In Matthew 19:1-12 Jesus gives a clear discourse on God's revelation about **marriage** and **divorce**.

**1. The Setting Of The Lord's Teaching—vv. 1-2**

- A. The End Of The **Galilean** Ministry
  - a. To mark the **end** of each of Jesus' major discourses Matthew used a phrase such as "**when Jesus had finished these words.**"
  - b. "**And He departed from Galilee**" marks the end of that ministry.
- B. The Beginning of The **Perean** Ministry
  - a. So, Jesus finished that discourse in chapter 18 and the Bible says that He departed Galilee and went into the region or borders of **Judea beyond the Jordan**.

**2. The Set-Up By The Pharisees—v. 3**

- A. "**The Pharisees also came to Him**"
  - a. This verse **introduces** us to our subject.
  - b. Remember, Jesus' steps were "dogged" by the **Pharisees**.
- B. The **Attack**
  - a. v. 3—"**they were testing Him**"
  - b. Obviously they wanted Jesus to **fail** the test.
  - c. They had two things in mind:
    - i. They wanted to **discredit** Him with the people so that He would loose popularity.
    - ii. They wanted to **destroy** Him.
- C. The Pharisees ask this loaded **question**: "**Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?**"

**3. The Solution By Jesus—vv. 4-6**

- A. The **Answer**
  - a. vv. 4-6; Jesus didn't answer their question immediately with His **own** opinion.
  - a. He went beyond Himself, their customs, beyond their rabbis, beyond their traditions, all the way back to **God**—The **authoritative** source.
- B. Jesus gives 4 Reasons Why It Is **Not** Lawful To **Divorce**:
  - a. **One** man was created for **one** woman—v. 4
  - b. A **Strong** Bond—v. 5
  - c. One **Flesh**—v. 5
  - d. What God has joined together, let **not man** divorce—v. 6

Before you ever think about divorce, I just simply ask, "Have you read this?"

The Bible says, "**Woe to him who strives (argues) with his Maker**"—**Isaiah 45:9**.