**THE KINGDOM**

**"Adultery, Divorce, Remarriage"**

**Matthew 5:27-32; 19:3-9**

I. **Adultery (vs. 27-29)**

1. Statement of the Law: Do not commit adultery

***"How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" - Genesis 39:9***

2. Sense of the Law: Refrain from lustful intent

3. Seriousness of the Violation: Shattered lives

***Job 31:1, “I made a covenant with my eyes not to look with lust at a young woman.”***

***I Corinthians 6:18, "Flee from sexual immorality."***

**II. Divorce (5:31-32; 19:3-9)**

1. God's intention for marriage: exclusive and permanent

***Matthew 19:3, "And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, 'Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?'***

***Matthew 19:4-6***

***4 He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,***

***5 and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?***

***6 So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."***

2. Divorce is not an option...except for adultery.

***Matthew 19:7-8***

***7 They said to him, "Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?"***

***8 He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.***

***Matthew 19:9, "And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery."***

Adultery destroys the union God established and breaks the oneness of marriage.

The standard is still to seek forgiveness and reconciliation and keep the marriage intact and grow stronger

**III. Remarriage (5:32; 19:9)**

1. Divorce due to adultery the innocent party can remarry (Matt. 5:32/19:9)
2. Divorce due to abandonment the innocent party can remarry (***I Corinthians 7:15, "But if the unbelieving partner separates, let it be so. In such cases the brother or sister is not enslaved. God has called you to peace."***)
3. If grounds for divorce are not adultery or abandonment, then remarriage is adulterous for both parties (Matt. 5:32/19:9)

 Live out your marriage honorably before God