

# PORTRAIT OF THE *King*

ADVERSARIES

A black silhouette of a person standing with their arms raised in a cross shape, set against a background of a bright, glowing sun or fire. The person's head is positioned at the intersection of the cross's arms.

# **“Jesus’ Teaching on Divorce”**

**MATTHEW 19:1-12**



*“When one of you has a grievance against another, does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the saints?”*

**I Corinthians 6:1**



*“...God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes.”*

**Ecclesiastes 7:29**



- humility (18:1-6)
- battling sin (18:7-9)
- restoring those caught up in sin (18:10-20)
- forgiveness (18:21-35)
- the nature of true salvation (19:13-30; 21:28-32)
- stewardship (20:1-16)
- paying taxes (22:15-22)
- the resurrection (22:23-33)
- loving God and loving your neighbor (22:34-40)

## Jesus' Teaching in Near Context



## KEY POINT:

God's desired will is that the married remain married,  
but God allows divorce because of our own sin.



*“Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church  
and gave himself up for her,”*

**Ephesians 5:25**

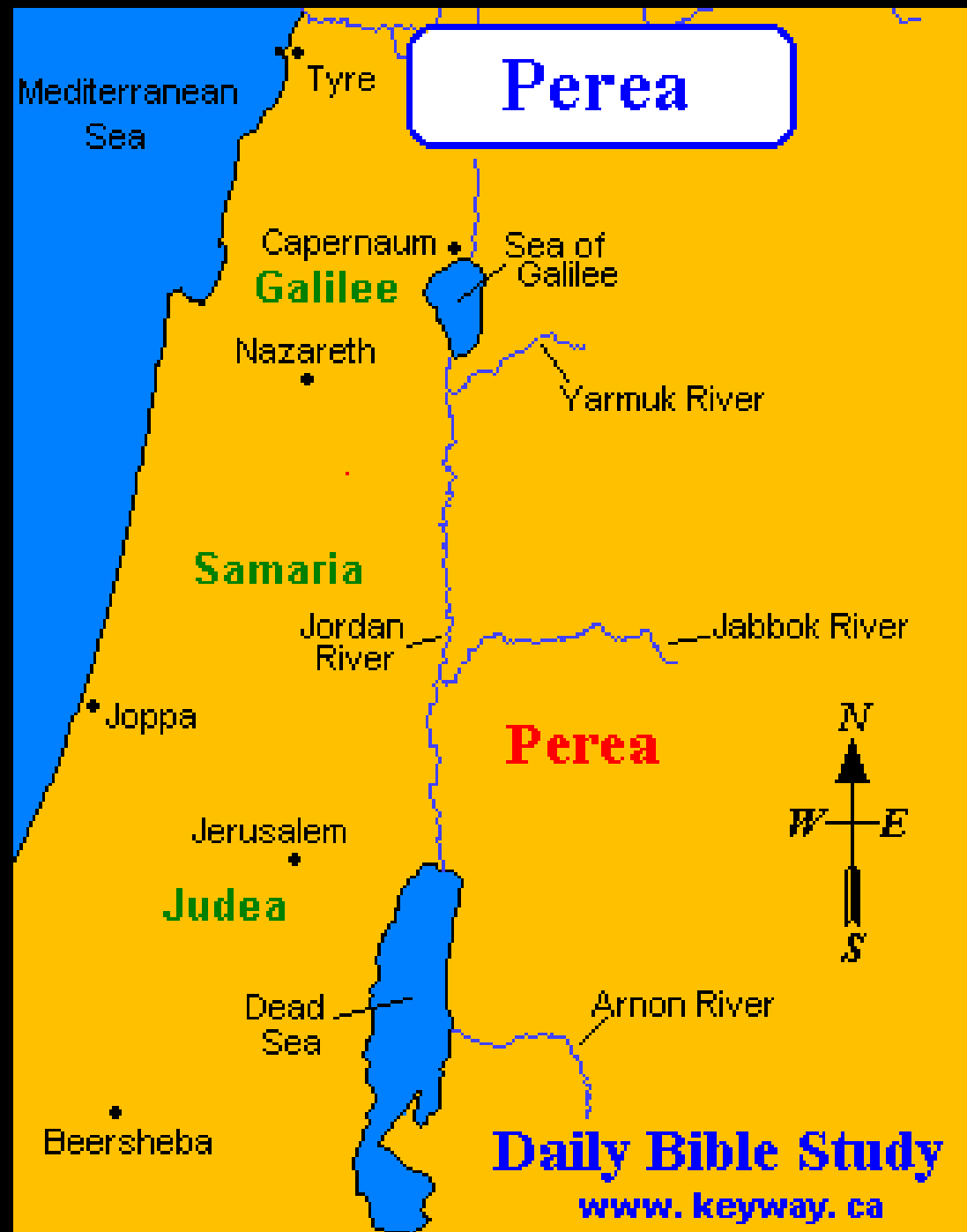


# I. The Attack on God's Design for Marriage (vs. 1-3)

**Outline of Matthew 19:1-12**







# Perea

Mediterranean Sea

Tyre

Capernaum

Nazareth

Sea of Galilee

Yarmuk River

Samaria

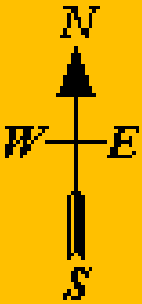
Jordan River

Jabbok River

Joppa

Perea

Jerusalem



Judea

Dead Sea

Arnon River

Beersheba

Daily Bible Study

[www.keyway.ca](http://www.keyway.ca)

- Plotting against Him; attempted to assassinate him (Matthew 12:14)
- Waiting around Jesus hoping He will say “the wrong thing” (Luke 11:53-54)

## **The Pharisees Conspiring to Test Jesus**



- *Hillel*: A liberal rabbi. Believed divorce could be for any form of “*indecenty*” – sexual or not (e.g., if a husband was unhappy with his wife). The majority opinion in Jesus’ day.

**Rabbi Hillel vs. Rabbi Shammai**



- *Hillel*: A liberal rabbi. Believed divorce could be for any form of “*indecenty*” – sexual or not (e.g., if a husband was unhappy with his wife). The majority opinion in Jesus’ day.
- *Shammai*: Much more conservative. Believed the indecency was sexual immorality (e.g., adultery – during marriage or betrothal).

**Rabbi Hillel vs. Rabbi Shammai**



- “A bad wife is like leprosy to her husband. What is the remedy? Let him divorce her and be cured of his leprosy.”
- “If a man has a bad wife, it is a religious duty to divorce her.”

**Talmudic Teaching on Divorce**



- I. The Attack on God's Design for Marriage (vs. 1-3)
- II. The Answer from Jesus (vs. 4-12)
  - A. Marriage was instituted by God (vs. 4-6).

**Outline of Matthew 19:1-12**



- God created two genders and those genders cannot be altered – “*male and female.*”

**Truth About Marriage from  
Genesis 1-2**



- God created two genders and those genders cannot be altered – “*male and female.*”
- When a man and woman marry, they are to leave their current homes and begin a family in a new place together.

**Truth About Marriage from  
Genesis 1-2**





- God created two genders and those genders cannot be altered – “*male and female.*”
- When a man and woman marry, they are to leave their current homes and begin a family in a new place together.
- The man and woman covenant with one another.

**Truth About Marriage from  
Genesis 1-2**



- God created two genders and those genders cannot be altered – “*male and female.*”
- When a man and woman marry, they are to leave their current homes and begin a family in a new place together.
- The man and woman covenant with one another.
- Marriage is the most intimate of relationships on earth.

**Truth About Marriage from  
Genesis 1-2**



“If marriage were of human origin, then human beings would have a right to set it aside. But since God instituted marriage, only He has the right to do so.”

**Jay Adams, *Marriage, Divorce  
and Remarriage***



- I. The Attack on God's Design for Marriage (vs. 1-3)
  
- II. The Answer from Jesus (vs. 4-12)
  - A. Marriage was instituted by God (vs. 4-6).
  - B. God allows divorce because of man's sin (vs 7-8).

**Outline of Matthew 19:1-12**



- Designed to protect the wife
- Probably specific, including which parties were involved, how long their marriage had been, a total release from the marriage for the one being divorced, etc.
- Not commanded, but allowed. An option, not a duty.
- Not command by Moses

**A Certificate of Divorce**



- I. The Attack on God's Design for Marriage (vs. 1-3)
  
- II. The Answer from Jesus (vs. 4-12)
  - A. Marriage was instituted by God (vs. 4-6).
  - B. God allows divorce because of man's sin (vs 7-8).
  - C. God regulates the occasion for divorce (vs. 9).

**Outline of Matthew 19:1-12**



1. Death
2. Abandonment by an unbelieving spouse  
(I Corinthians 7:15)
3. Adultery

**Three Ways a Marriage Can  
End, According to the Bible**



- Under Mosaic Law, adultery was punishable by death (Leviticus 20:10; Deuteronomy 22:22).
- Habitual adulterers will not inherit heaven (I Corinthians 6:9-10; Revelation 21:8).
- Adultery is called a work of the flesh (Galatians 5:19; Colossians 3:5).
- Adultery is called a behavior of the old man, of the non-Christian (Ephesians 5:3-12).

## Adultery in the Bible





- I. The Attack on God's Design for Marriage (vs. 1-3)
  
- I. The Answer from Jesus (vs. 4-12)
  - A. Marriage was instituted by God (vs. 4-6).
  - B. God allows divorce because of man's sin (vs 7-8).
  - C. God regulates the occasion for divorce (vs. 9).
  
- III. The Assessment Given by the Disciples (vs 10-12)

## Outline of Matthew 19:1-12



1. God created marriage.

**5 Summarizing Statements**



1. God created marriage.
2. God's desired will is for marriage not to end in divorce.

**5 Summarizing Statements**



1. God created marriage.
2. God's desired will is for marriage not to end in divorce.
3. There are regulations for divorce: adultery (Matthew 19) and abandonment (I Corinthians 7).

## 5 Summarizing Statements



1. God created marriage.
2. God's desired will is for marriage not to end in divorce.
3. There are regulations for divorce: adultery (Matthew 19) and abandonment (I Corinthians 7).
4. The married should reflect the Gospel in their roles.

## 5 Summarizing Statements



1. God created marriage.
2. God's desired will is for marriage not to end in divorce.
3. There are regulations for divorce: adultery (Matthew 19) and abandonment (I Corinthians 7).
4. The married should reflect the Gospel in their roles.
5. The unbiblically divorced should repent.

## 5 Summarizing Statements

