

A close-up photograph of a legal document titled "Divorce Decree" with a gavel and wedding rings in the background. The document is yellowed and has a red leather folder behind it. A black gavel is positioned diagonally across the right side of the document. In the bottom left corner, two gold wedding rings are visible. The text on the document includes "Divorce Decree", "Petition for dissolution of Marriage", and several fields for "Case No.", "File No.", and "CSEA AA#". At the bottom, it says "heard on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, on \_\_\_\_\_, R. Smith. The Court finds \_\_\_\_\_ both parties".

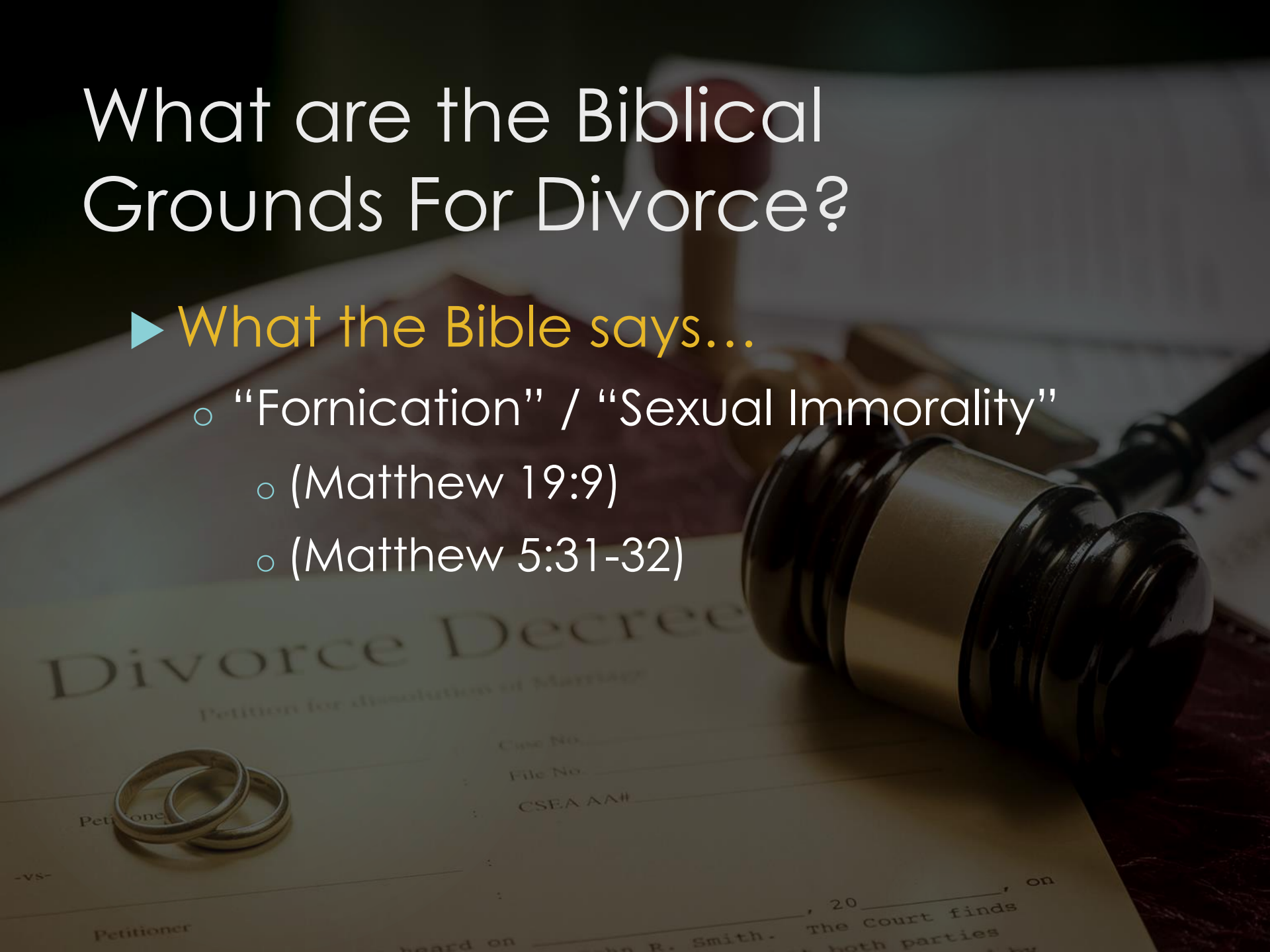
# Questions @ Marriage and Divorce

MATTHEW 19:3, 10

# What are the Biblical Grounds For Divorce?

## ▶ What the Bible says...

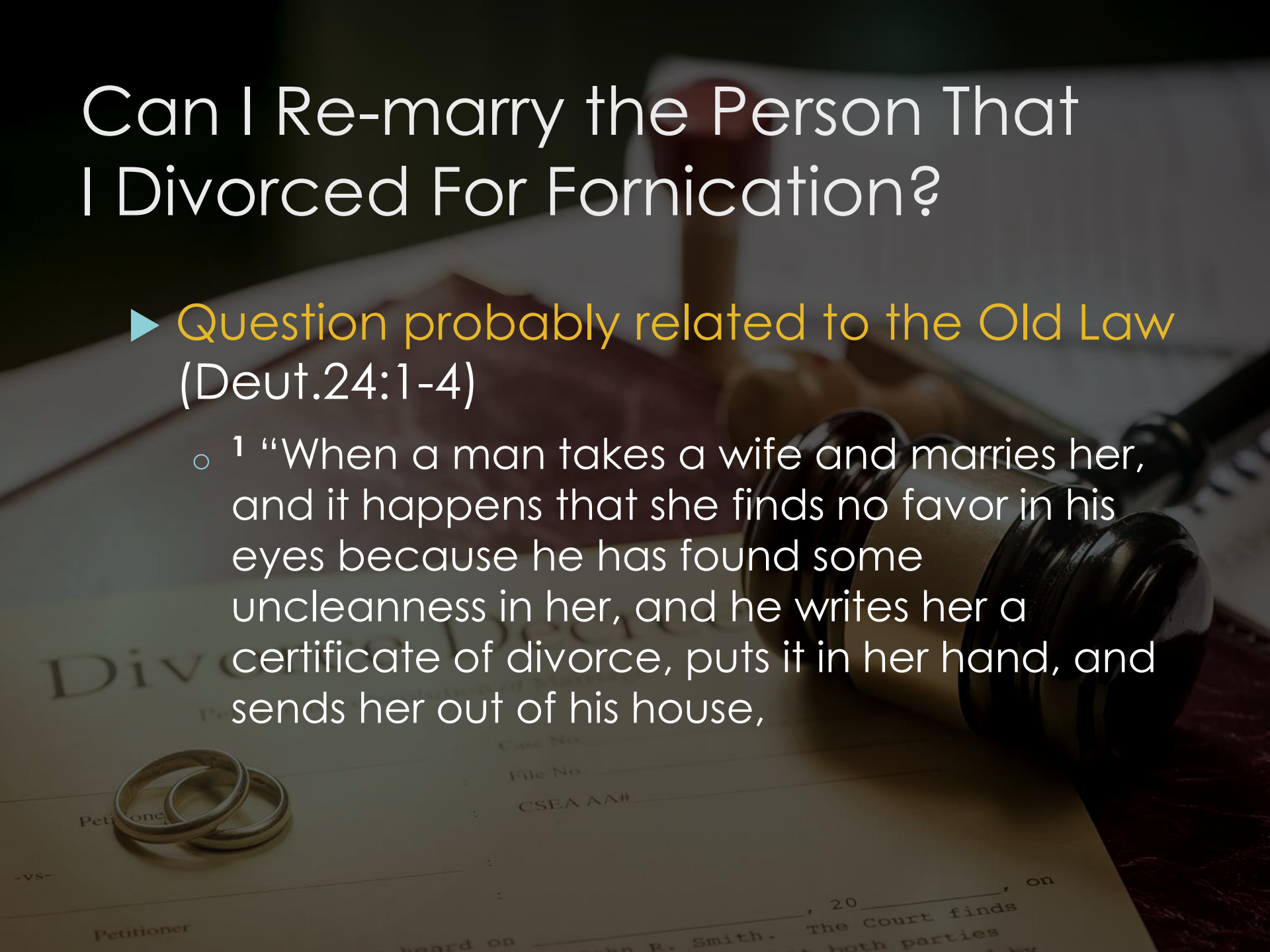
- “Fornication” / “Sexual Immorality”
- (Matthew 19:9)
- (Matthew 5:31-32)



# Can I Re-marry the Person That I Divorced For Fornication?

- ▶ Question probably related to the Old Law (Deut.24:1-4)

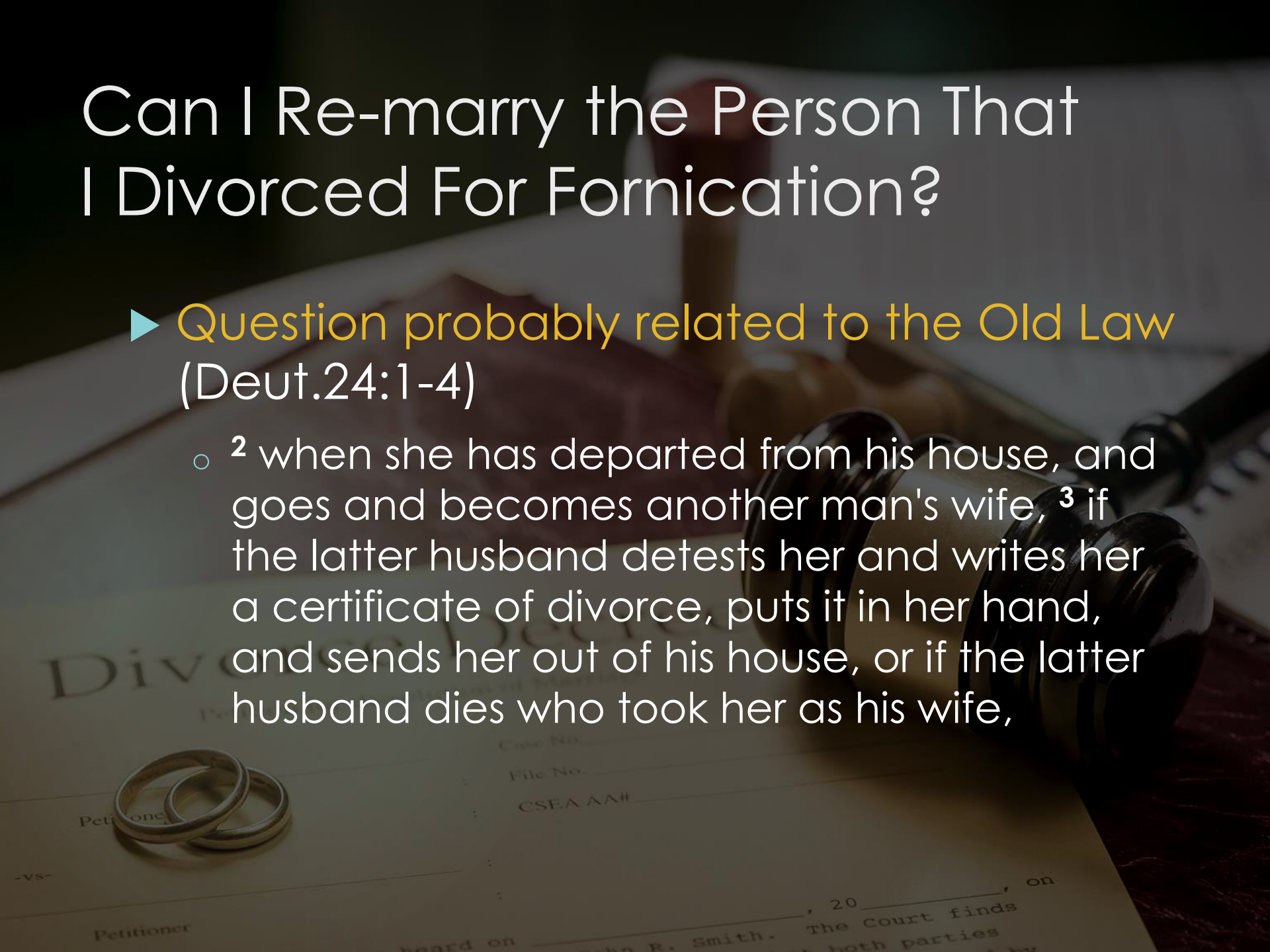
- <sup>1</sup> “When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some uncleanness in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce, puts it in her hand, and sends her out of his house,



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- <sup>2</sup> when she has departed from his house, and goes and becomes another man's wife, <sup>3</sup> if the latter husband detests her and writes her a certificate of divorce, puts it in her hand, and sends her out of his house, or if the latter husband dies who took her as his wife,



# Can I Re-marry the Person That I Divorced For Fornication?

- ▶ Question probably related to the Old Law (Deut.24:1-4)
  - <sup>4</sup> then her former husband who divorced her must not take her back to be his wife after she has been defiled; for that is an abomination before the Lord, and you shall not bring sin on the land which the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance.



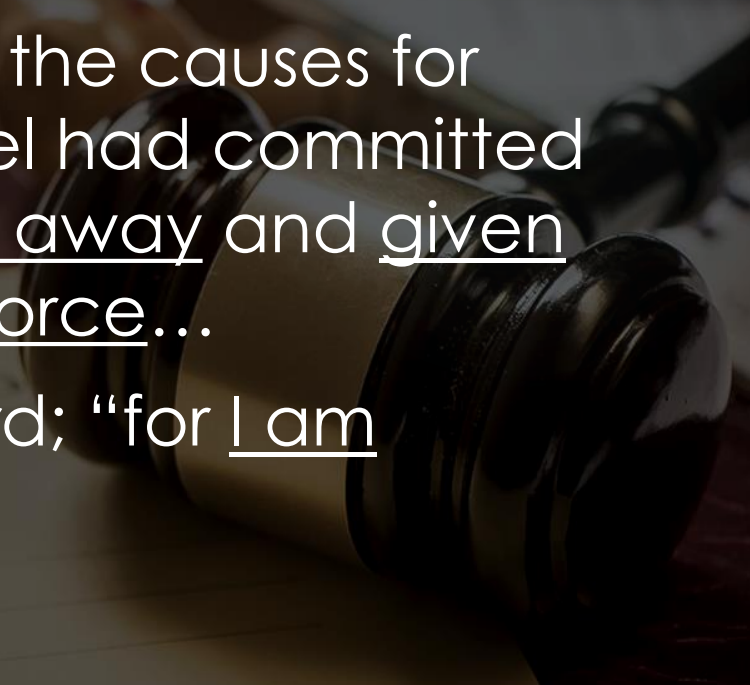
# Can I Re-marry the Person That I Divorced For Fornication?

- ▶ Question probably related to the Old Law (Deut.24:1-4)
  - Context: Dealing with divorce that was not God's will from the beginning (Matt.19:7-8)
  - Made them realize consequence of hasty or indiscriminate divorce
  - Not parallel with our question

# Can I Re-marry the Person That I Divorced For Fornication?

## ▶ O.T. Example that IS Parallel (Jer.3:1-14)

- <sup>8</sup> Then I saw that for all the causes for which backsliding Israel had committed adultery, I had put her away and given her a certificate of divorce...
- <sup>14</sup> “Return” says the Lord; “for I am married to you.”



-vs-

Petitioner

Case No.  
File No.  
CSEA A#

Petitioner

heard on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, on  
\_\_\_\_\_ R. Smith. The Court finds  
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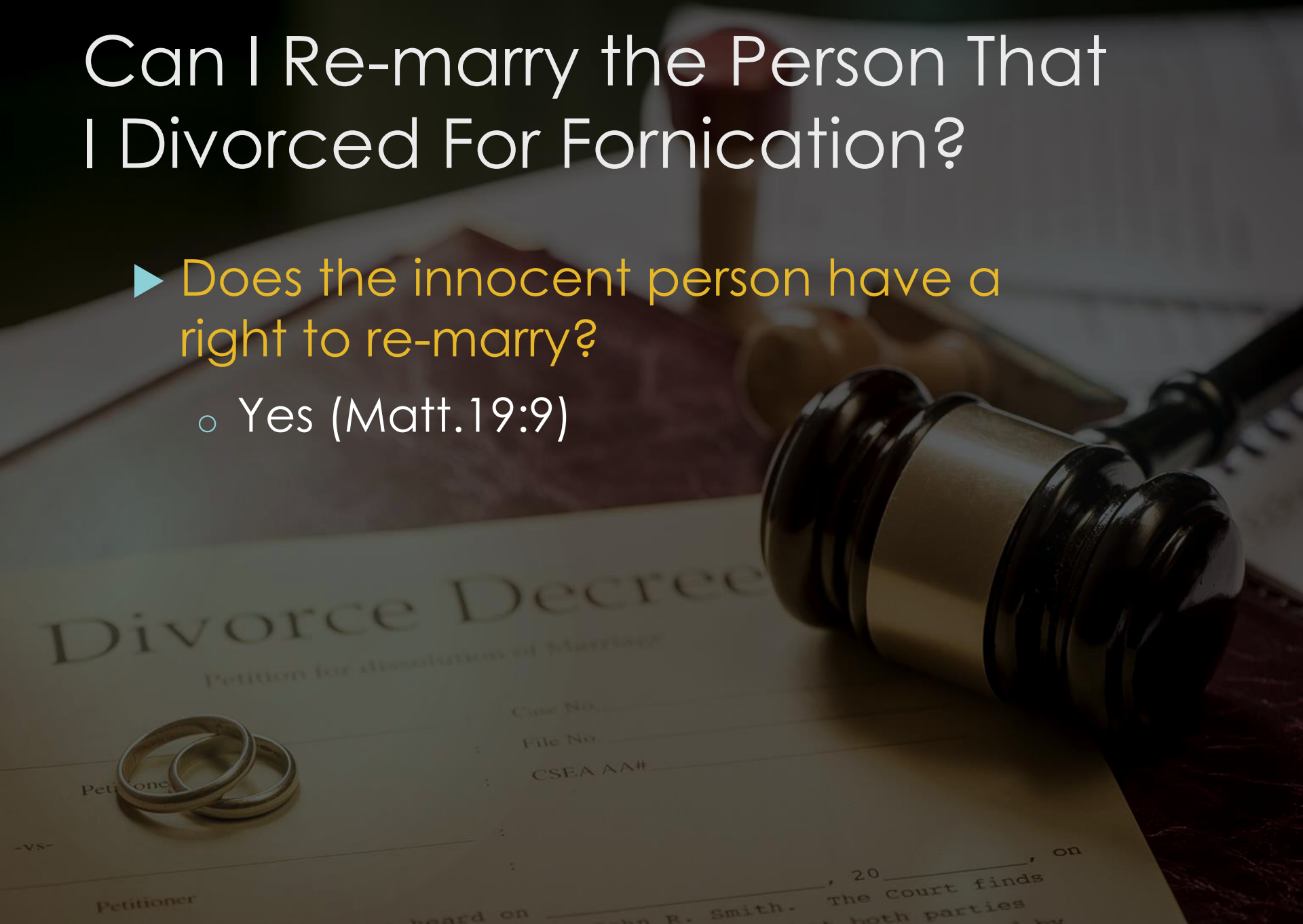
# Can I Re-marry the Person That I Divorced For Fornication?

- ▶ O.T. Example that IS Parallel (Jer.3:8)
  - Context pertains to our question (v.1)
  - Israel committed adultery (v.8)
  - God divorced Israel (v.8)
  - He then appealed to her to return (v.12,14)
  - “For I am married to you...” (v.14)



# Can I Re-marry the Person That I Divorced For Fornication?

- ▶ Does the innocent person have a right to re-marry?
  - Yes (Matt.19:9)



# Can I Re-marry the Person That I Divorced For Fornication?

- ▶ Does the put away person have the right to be married to their spouse who put them away?
  - Yes (Matt.19:9) – The innocent spouse is not required to put them away so they can remain married even after adultery
  - God never rescinds that right, liberty or authority... as long as the innocent spouse is still free to be married to them

# Can A Put Away Guilty Fornicator Re-marry After Their Mate Dies Who Put Them Away?

## ▶ Consider Romans 7:2-3

- <sup>2</sup> For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband. <sup>3</sup> So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; **but** if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.

# Can A Put Away Guilty Fornicator Re-marry After Their Mate Dies Who Put Them Away?

## ▶ Who has the authority to be married?

- A person who has never been married (1Cor.7:2)
- A person who has divorced their mate for adultery (Matt.19:9)
- A person whose mate has died (1Cor.7:39)

## ▶ The person we are considering fits #3

# Can A Put Away Guilty Fornicator Re-marry After Their Mate Dies Who Put Them Away?

- ▶ Why is put away fornicator prohibited from marrying another person?
  - They are bound by law or covenant of their original marriage (Rom.7:2)
  - Not because of punishment
  - Every married couple is bound by law or covenant to their mate and that is not “punishment”

# Can A Put Away Guilty Fornicator Re-marry After Their Mate Dies Who Put Them Away?

- ▶ Romans 7:2-3 specifically addresses a situation where an innocent man dies while his wife is committing adultery in an unlawful marriage
  - God says “she is free from that law” after her husband dies even “though she has married another man”

# Can A Put Away Guilty Fornicator Re-marry After Their Mate Dies Who Put Them Away?

## ► Consider the context of Romans 7:2-3

- The Jew was free from the law of Moses and thus able to be married to Christ
- This is parallel with the marriage law
- Could a Jew who departed from the law in spiritual adultery and remained in adultery till after the law ended, be married to Christ?

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