

Answering The Religious Errors Of Our Family, Friends, and Neighbors 1
“Non-Christians Are Not Subject To God’s Marriage Laws!”
Lesson 39

INTRO:

- A. "Worldly people are judged solely by the law of the world." "Baptism is the dividing line between the World and the Church (I Cor. 12:13). Up till then, Civil laws control. After baptism, Christ law takes over." (E.C. Fuqua, **The Vindicator**, Dec. 1951, p.2)
1. "The alien is not under the covenant law of Christ until he brings himself under it by obedience to its terms." (Homer Hailey, **THE DIVORCED AND REMARRIED WHO WOULD COME TO GOD**, p.52).
- B. There are some questions which these statement raise:
1. Does Jesus' laws concerning marriage, divorce, and remarriage only apply to those in His Kingdom?
 2. Are people in the world guilty of sin solely because they have violated civil laws?
 3. Is a person only subject to Christ's teachings of Matthew 19:9, 5:32, etc. when they agree to enter a covenant relationship with the Lord?

I. WHAT DO THE SCRIPTURES TEACH?

- A. God Is The Sovereign Ruler Of All Creation And All Mankind Is Accountable To Him.
1. The basis of man's accountability is demonstrated in the creation itself. **Genesis 1:1; 2:7**
- B. Mankind Has Always Been Subject To God’s Laws.
1. In the days before the flood, man was subject to God's law. **Genesis 6:5**
 - a. Why were they evil? Because they broke God's law.
 - b. Sin is transgression of God's law. **1 John 3:4**
 2. During the law of Moses, the Gentiles were sinners.
 - a. They broke God's law. **Romans 1:28-32**
 - b. They broke God's law and were sinners.
- C. All Of Mankind Will Be Judged. **2 Corinthians 5:10; John 12:48**
1. Whether people recognize His laws or not, He is still the Ruler and Judge.
 2. Making has always lived under law to God - otherwise no sin could exist. **Romans 4:15; 5:13**
 - a. Yet, all have sinned. **Romans 3:23; 5:12**
- D. Today, We Are **ALL** Under The Law God Gave Through Christ.
1. **Matthew 28:18; 1 Corinthians 15:27**
 - a. Jesus is not just ruling over those who might be converted to Him, but **ALL!**
 2. However, all people are not answerable to all parts of the law:
 - a. Those who aren't parents are not answerable to laws applying to parents.
 - b. The same is true in the case of instructions given to elders, deacons, husbands, wives, children, servants, and masters.

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3. Non-Christians are not under civil law **ONLY!**
 - a. The people in Athens were guilty of the sin of idolatry but it was obviously not a violation of Athens’ civil law.

II. THE LORD’S LAW OF MARRIAGE. Matthew 19:4-9

- A. The Pharisees/Jews were asking what did Moses say about it.
 1. Jesus did not answer in regards to what Moses’ Law said but, instead, what was “*at the beginning*”.
 2. Just as it was wrong from “*the beginning*” for Cain to kill his brother, it’s been wrong from “*the beginning*” for husbands to put away/ divorce their wives!
 3. God’s marriage law of one husband and one wife for life is God’s will from “*the beginning*”!
- B. **Verse 9**
 1. If God’s law on marriage does not apply to a non-Christian, how do we explain the word “**whoever**”?
 2. God’s marriage law, from “*the beginning*”, applies to “*whoever*”!
 3. There is nothing in the context that would make anyone the exception!
 4. **1 Corinthians 5:10**
 - a. If non-Christians are not subject to God’s law, then how could “*people of this world*” be guilty of sexual immorality/ fornication?
 - b. How about the sin of homosexuality? Does that apply only to a Christian?

CONCLUSION:

- A. Are alien sinners accountable to God’s marriage laws? Most certainly!
 1. Though alien sinners have not brought themselves under obedience to the laws of Christ, they are, nevertheless, accountable to that law.
- B. When one becomes a Christian, he may abide only in the relationships that are lawful.
 1. All sinful relationships, like adultery, polygamy, and homosexuality must end.
 2. All sinners, regardless of how terrible the sin, can be forgiven through the blood of Christ.
 3. However, no one can continue in a sinful relationship and expect to be forgiven.
 4. Repentance demands a separation from sin.