

# The Ongoing United Methodist Church Split

This website <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/united-methodists-lose-one-fifth-of-u-s-churches-in-schism-over-lgbtq-rights#:~:text=over%2Dlgbtq%2Drights-.United%20Methodists%20lose%20one%2Dfifth%20of%20U.S.,in%20schism%20over%20LGBTQ%20rights>

says United Methodist “Church law forbids the marriage or ordination of ‘self-avowed, practicing homosexuals,’ but many conservatives have chosen to leave amid a growing defiance of those bans in many U.S. churches and conferences.”

Here is another quote from that same article “With these departures, progressives are expected to propose changing church law at the next General Conference in 2024 to allow for same-sex marriage and the ordination of LGBTQ people.”

It is very right to leave the UMC denomination because they are compromising on gay marriage ...

Romans 1:26-27 For this cause God gave them up unto **vile** affections: for even their women did **change the natural use** into that which is **against nature**: And likewise also the men, **leaving the natural use** of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is **unseemly**, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their **error** which was meet.

Leviticus 20:13 If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death ...

Matt 19:4-5 Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them **male and female**, And said, For this cause shall a **man** leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his **wife**: and they twain shall be one flesh? God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve.

I Cor 6:9-10 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers. Neither **homosexuals**, nor **sodomites**, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, will inherit the kingdom of God. (NKJV)

But notice the UMC had already compromised on adulterous marriage several decades previous ...

**1896** Methodist Creed Book: No divorce, **except for adultery**, shall be regarded by the Church as lawful; and no Minister shall solemnize marriage in any case where there is a divorced wife or husband living; but this rule shall not be applied to the innocent party to a divorce for the cause of adultery .... (The Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church) **looks just like Matt 19:9, right?**

**1984** Methodist Creed Book: Where marriage partners, even after thoughtful consideration and counsel, are estranged beyond reconciliation, we recognize divorce as **regrettable** but **recognize the right of divorced persons to remarry**. ... We encourage an ... **accepting** ... commitment of the church ... to minister to the members of divorced families.

And compromise on adulterous marriage is just as bad, and eventually leads to compromise on gay marriage ...

Ken Wilson writes: I have proposed a path for these pastors that allows them to embrace people who are gay, lesbian, and transgender and to accept them fully — welcome and wanted — into the company of Jesus. I wrote A Letter To My Congregation when I realized my views had changed and I needed to communicate the intense theological, biblical, pastoral, and spiritual process that I had been through to get to this new place. It began with a burr beneath the saddle of my conscience: why was I willing to let so many divorced and remarried couples

know that they are welcome and wanted while refusing that same welcome to gay and lesbian couples? **How could I say to the remarried couples, whose second marriage was clearly condemned by the plain meaning of scripture, 'You are welcome and wanted,' while saying to the two (lesbian) mothers raising their adopted child together, 'I love you, but I hate your sin'?**

Sure enough ...

**2015** United Methodist Church ... leadership voted to submit ... a ... legislative proposal ... that removes "prohibitive" language from The United Methodist Book of Discipline concerning homosexuality. ... the proposal would allow United Methodist pastors to perform same-sex marriages in United Methodist churches. ... this proposal does not consider homosexuality incompatible with Christian teachings even though Methodists have historically recognized the practice ... as sinful.

Questions ...

If you were a member of a United Methodist Church, would you leave the congregation if they would not disaffiliate with the UMC denomination which is moving in the direction of accepting gay marriages (Rom 1:26-27)? Assuming you would, what would you do if they were moving in the direction of accepting polygamous marriages (I Cor 7:2)? What if they were moving in the direction of living together (without marriage) being okay (I Cor 6:9-10, 7:2)? Last question and the reason I bring this up: What if they had already moved in the direction of accepting adulterous marriages per texts like Matt 19:9?

Matt 19:9 ... whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth **adultery**: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

Mark 6:17-18 For Herod himself had ... laid hold upon John, and bound him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife: for he had married her. For John had said unto Herod, It is **not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife**.

Rom 7:2-3 For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, **while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress**: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.

Many other churches have made the same compromise on Divorce And Remarriage as the Methodist Church has - Some conservative groups believe that divorced people who marry another spouse are living in sin. However, **the number of divorces in the United States has led most denominations away from that teaching**. - Anthony Dunning in the Orange County (California) Register

Why so much compromise on Divorce And Remarriage? Let's think about it. Consider a couple in a second or third marriage that violates what Jesus said in texts like Matt 19:9, that is, an adulterous marriage. And suppose they were new to a community and were trying to decide which congregation in the area they were going to become a member of. Do you think the average person is going to join with a congregation where the preacher says what John the Baptist said in Matt 14:4 - **"It is not lawful for thee to have her"**? Meaning you have to terminate your marriage to be a member here. Or do you think said couple would join with a congregation that "recognizes the right of divorced persons to remarry"?, we can accept you in your second marriage. Now do you see then why 95% of preachers/congregations have compromised?