

For Our Information

Brenda Keisler is still having some neck pain. Ruben Keisler still has knee problems. Annette Gray also has knee issues.

Paula Laubach is doing some better with her breathing issues.

John Jackson will have surgery on his shoulder in February.

Theresa Ragsdale will have surgery on January 20th.

Ruben & Brenda Keisler will leave Saturday for a vacation in Mexico.

Keep our brothers & sisters in mind

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

Church of Christ

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We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

humble and perhaps simple view, have become educated beyond their intelligence!

Remarriage in Verse 15?

Finally, some have found another cause for divorce and remarriage in the phrase "not under bondage" (v. 15). That is the subject of another article and, therefore, I will simply call attention to the fact that only by implication based on one's own opinion concerning the interpretation of the verse can he assume that it authorizes remarriage. Paul says nothing of remarriage in this section of the chapter. In fact, he only approaches the subject of remarriage twice in the entire chapter, once directly and once indirectly. In verse 39, he says that the woman whose husband is dead may remarry. In verse 11, he commanded the woman who had left her husband to remain unmarried.

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Seeking His Righteousness

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1Corinthians 7

C. G. "Colly" Caldwell

(This is the second half of the article published in last week's bulletin. You may want to take time to read the first half before you start reading. Though it was written 27 years ago the issues discussed are still prevalent in our very permissive society. DLH)

Divorce, But Not Remarriage?

Third, Paul repeated the "command" of "the Lord" that, "a wife is not to depart from her husband" (v. 10). Some have found comfort in Paul's next phrase, "even if she does depart." The Christian, they say, may divorce without sin for cause other than fornication if there is no subsequent sexual activity. Among these some go



But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband ...

**1Corinthians
7:10**



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1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

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on to say that if the former mate commits fornication, the "innocent" party is free to put him/her away in the heart and marry again, whatever the cause of the original divorce.

The statement "but even if she does depart" (v. 11) does not free one to disobey the command of verse ten. Actually, Paul was only stating what the Christian must do who has left a mate in ignorance of or in spite of the command "not to depart." This passage is like many others in which an inspired writer explains provisions made or what to do or to avoid after sin has occurred. In another place Paul said, "Do not boast against the branches. But if you boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you" (Romans 11:18). Remembering does not justify boasting. John said, "My little children, these things I write to you, that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1John 2:1). Certainly the provision of an Advocate does not make it all right to sin. James said, "But if you have bitter envy and self seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth" (James 3:14). The prohibition against going further to boast and lie against the truth does not soften the bitter envy and self-seeking.

The truth that God does not condone divorce was clearly reinforced when Paul returned to the original command. He said, "And a husband is not to divorce his wife" (v. 11).

Remain in Your Calling?

Fourth, when Paul addressed these Christians who

Store In My Heart

James 1:5

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

Notice how James reminds his readers that they should consider themselves. The only way to know of a lack in wisdom is to take a look at the knowledge we already have.

Wisdom comes from God. I recommend spending some time reading in the Book of Proverbs as well as keeping this verse in mind.

God wants to help us stay faithful and overcome temptation. All we need to do is go to Him asking for help.

He has delivered to us His wisdom in Scripture. Spend more time in the Word and more time in prayer, and wisdom will come.

were married to non-Christians, he told them not to leave their mates but instead to stay in their marriages. "God has called us to peace," he said (v. 15). We are not to seek freedom from circumstances in which we find ourselves when we are called into Christ. Such circumstances as circumcision and slavery were used by Paul as illustrations (vv. 17-24).

This passage has been used to teach that Christians who are "married" a second, third, or fourth time may stay with the mate they have at the time of conversion despite the causes of former divorce action. Reasoning thus affirms the thing to be proved and argues in a circle. No preacher I know would declare that the professional thief or contract murderer may remain in his "calling." I have not talked with one who will proclaim that the homosexual or polygamist may remain in the sinful relationship. All must affirm that repentance requires leaving sinful practice (1Corinthians 6:9-11). What these persons are claiming is that the relationship is not sinful and/or that activity shared in the relationship is not sinful. That is the thing to be proved! If one argues that because the sins of the past are forgiven the relationship may continue, by what line of reasoning would he not be forced to argue that two unmarried people living together are forgiven and thus may continue in a relationship God did not previously approve? If they argue that these persons are not under the law of Christ prior to baptism, by what reasoning could he ever point to the homosexuality, polygamy, and multiple marriages of the worldly rich and famous as sinful? Some, in my