



Summer 2013

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Marriage Covenants in
Question!!!

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Please notify CPR of any
changes in mailing or email
addresses. Thank you.

A Message by Dr. Joseph A. Webb

The following was part of an article sent to a friend of this ministry, declaring divorce and remarriage, while your first partner is still alive, is acceptable, normal and approved by God. Following this article was my response. Joe Webb

Marriage Covenants Are Conditional (NOT Unconditional)

A Marriage Covenant, Marriage Vows, a Marriage Agreement and a Covenant Marriage are all conditional. There is no such thing as an "unconditional" marriage covenant. The very terms: marriage agreement, marriage vows and marriage covenant all mean they are conditional. That is what a vow, covenant or an agreement is: a union based upon conditions.

How the Devil Used the Errors of the Marriage Covenant Being "Unconditional"

The devil was able to spin a web of lies and deceit which drove couples away from the original marriage covenant because of the errors taught by God's church. Of course the church did not decide to teach

error; rather, the truth has been lost through time.

Let me explain. I believe that because the truths of marriage, divorce, remarriage, submission and covenant have been lost through time, it gave the devil a powerful opportunity to actually use the errors that are being taught as truth within the church to enslave many of God's people in bad (non-covenantal) marriages. His church, the very people of God, who have been given the awesome responsibility to uphold these truths have become the very taskmasters enslaving God's people by ignorantly upholding the devil's agenda.

Somewhere down through history well-intended translators of the Bible have adopted these errors as truth. I believe some were done purposely to fit their desires, but most were probably through ignorance. Because the famous Scripture of Malachi 2:16 has been translated and taught as "God hates divorce" instead of its real meaning of "God hates a separation (to marry another person without getting divorced first)," the devil was able to convince us that marriage covenants are unconditional. If he could get the church to believe that marriage covenants are unconditional, he could use the church itself as a prison camp to enslave God's people thereby disabling them from fulfilling the calling of God on

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their lives because of fear, guilt and shame. Sadly, He has accomplished his mission, to a great extent.
By S. G.

Reply by Joseph Webb

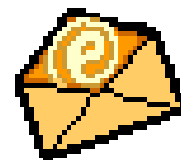
Brother C;

Here you are witnessing the fulfillment of prophecy; "Men's misguided ideas and doctrines of demons." To come to these conclusions, they have ignored or twisted many clear verses. To say, for instance, the early Church distorted the true character of marriage to their own gain, is ludicrous. How about Paul in Romans 7:2,3? "They that know the law (should he have said, the distorted law?) KNOW that a woman is BOUND to her HUSBAND, AS LONG AS SHE LIVETH; but if her husband be dead, she is loosed from that law. But if, while her husband lives, she be married to another man, she shall be called an ADULTERESS." WOW! Even Paul's doctrine was already screwed up! No wonder the Earliest Church Fathers messed up. Even Jesus' reasonings were twisted up, (if we are to listen to this man's reasonings.) Luke 16:18: "Whosoever divorces his wife and marries another, (recognizes he screwed up and can try again and again until he gets it right?) COMMITS ADULTERY: AND WHOSOEVER MARRIETH HER THAT IS PUT AWAY FROM HER HUSBAND COMMITTETH ADULTERY." WOW!! No wonder Paul was screwed up in his doctrine:

even Jesus had it all wrong. After all: marriage is "CONDITIONAL." How can we believe anything the Word of God says? It's all corrupted! God doesn't hate divorce and remarriage, He actually expects it if one of the covenant partners decides he/she doesn't like the terms of the covenant anymore and sees someone else that tickles their desires more. They are saying exactly what Erasmus taught: "Someone needs to go back and "reinterpret scripture." It needs to say: "There is no permanent covenant, so there is no such thing as adultery. Thus Jesus and Paul were wrong when they taught; "adulterers SHALL NOT inherit the Kingdom of God." If divorce and remarriage, while your first partner is alive is natural and right; NONE of God's word is trustworthy, and we have NO sure foundation. Brother; These men have been warned, and they have no desire to admit their sin. Let the Lord judge between them and us. The proof is in the pudding, where we see covenant marriages restored, and the families reunited. This is not BONDAGE: but Biblical holiness.
Blessings Joe Webb

P.S. I have blocked their addresses from my computer, because, like Nehemiah of old; "I will not come down off the wall, to debate with those who are immersed in their folly. They do not want help; only to rant their misguided ideas, to inoculate any who might feel any conviction of sin, with the possibility of repenting; and

putting them in an embarrassing position.



Dear Pastor Joe

Thank you for returning my call the other night. It was so encouraging sharing and praying with you. God knows I was asking about a husband and even thought about and looked at some dating services....did not have peace and now I know that is not what I should do. Wait on God He has a perfect way and perfect timing....a-men!

I was raised in WI in an E. U. B. Church that was later changed to United Methodist... I didn't know anything about making a life commitment to the Lord even though I was in church and Sunday School every Sunday (even if I was sick!). The fellowship was good and loving but not a lot was taught on the Truth of who Jesus was and how

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He could actually help us live our lives.

After I graduated from High School; I went to 1 year of college; and that was to please my parents. My heart was not into studying because reading and retaining what I read has always been a challenge. I felt I couldn't live up to both of my Sister's straight A's.

I had a bug to travel and found a friend who felt the same way, so we drove her VW bug to CA with no real destination in mind. We ended up in the San Francisco Bay Area. We got jobs the day we arrived and it wasn't long after that I met my husband in a restaurant of all places. He was going in with a guy friend and I was walking out with a gal friend and we met later down the street and danced all night. We talked most of the night and had some things in common. Both of our Dad's had an Implement store, but his parents were long divorced. He had a very hard and sad life....Maybe I thought I could love him through all his pain. He even told me he was married before, BUT since I wasn't aware of what the

Bible said....AND we both made excuses for him. He told me they married while still in high school because she said she was pregnant. They were only married a very short time and he found her in bed with another guy when he came home from work.

I had never had a real boyfriend but always wanted to someday be married and have children. I guess I thought he met the requirements. We BOTH felt a strong physical attraction (Lust) and within 3 months were married. Children followed quickly. After (2 girls just 21 months apart), I soon saw his unrest, anger, lies, and many affairs; but was still willing to make this marriage work. I ALWAYS said...."Marriage is Forever" just like it was for my whole family!

Looking back, I was totally blinded to the fact that he WAS married before. I just thought the Forever started with us? It was out of my mind and we were married for 15 years until he decided he wanted to leave with another woman he had met and wanted to be with. I was

shocked....even though I knew we weren't in a "good" place, I thought someday we would have time to overlook faults and work on our marriage. I hated the word "Divorce" and was not a willing party to letting it just happen. I fought it for years and finally he was going to get it with or without my permission. We were in a no-fault divorce state! We were living in Oregon after northern California for most of our time together.

I was lost, scared, sad, broken, crying all the time! I was invited, by a neighbor, to accept Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. Right there I knew I had to surrender or I would die! I had 2 girls to care for and had to have someone's help. That was Jesus! I was drawn to church and told my story of abandonment and how I didn't believe in divorce.

Eventually my sister in Idaho told me about a book, "You can save your marriage alone" and through that, got connected to "Born Again Marriages" and then "Covenant Keepers".

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I was totally committed for 28 years to having our marriage restored even though I knew it would HAVE to be God who did it! My husband had moved on and married and seemed very happy to the outside world; but left no room for his own Girls. I forgave him every time I thought about him, because I was hurting so much for my girls and myself.

After he filed and left me, I was in Oregon with no way to really support the girls. After much thinking I imagined the only thing I wanted to do all my life was to become a flight attendant. I wasn't sure they would even want me. (I was at the time in my late 30's.) Even my husband encouraged me to apply. I had some interviews and was hired by American Airlines!

It was tough making the transition. I still pray for forgiveness for the changes that had to happen in the girls and my lives. One of the biggest changes was in location. I had to move to Texas for my new job and had to move my youngest daughter, in her Senior year!

We moved from a house in Oregon to a studio apartment in Texas for over a year. My oldest daughter had already moved to Arizona on her own, right after her graduation.

Not long ago a friend spoke to me (after ALL these years..28 years!) and said, "Was your husband married before?" It finally hit me: YES!!! He was married before and I was an adulteress!!! I cried out; "Oh, Lord, forgive me." I cried at the thought of being, what I considered, a disgusting sinner!

I can't even believe I finally got the TRUTH!!! I see now the Lord was protecting me and keeping me focused on raising the girls. I asked this same messenger of God, "Where does that leave me now?"

She has been studying this issue for Many years and has even been encouraged by God to write a book on how far the Church has gotten from the truth about divorce and remarriage. She said, "I believe that in God's eyes you have never been in a covenant relationship, so you are free to marry ONLY a man who's wife has died,

or has never been married....and, of course, a man of God, so we would be equally yoked.

After my confession and repentance, It took awhile to absorb the changes in my thinking. I even announced it to my daughters 2 years ago, at Christmastime, shortly after learning of this. They still don't have a viable relationship with their Dad (makes me sad but I'm trusting God to heal their relationships.)

For years and years they taunted and teased me about waiting for their dad. They used to say, "It is over, move on, Mother! We want you to be with someone who can be part of our family".

They so lacked a godly man's example all those years! I had to ask God to forgive me for that time lost. I know God can restore the years the locust have eaten, and that is my prayer!

I cried when I asked them to forgive me. They hugged me and said what a GREAT Christmas present I had given them.

My daughters are adults and I am blessed the Lord WAS their

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Father even though not in the physical! They are beautiful, hard working, friendly, positive, lovely "girls". The oldest is married to, a follower of Jesus Christ (one and only marriage for both!!!) My youngest is dating a special man, but she told him she cannot marry an unsaved man (neither one has been married before. I am praising God he has blessed me in this way, even though I was blind and made excuses!)

My Whole family is praying about this relationship she is in. If it IS God then He will draw her friend to himself and they will be able to marry, or He will take him out of her life. I thank God for my praying Sisters and Mom....so many answers, so much love!

I am now looking forward to what God has for me. I do believe He has been preparing me and giving me the desire to share my life as I look forward to retirement, and enjoying the benefit of travel with someone I can love and be in a True Covenant of Marriage; doing the Lord's work wherever HE sends me (us)! :)

God bless you for your boldness, Pastor Joe. I know God is using you mightily. I am glad to be a part of that army now and can add my story to many others who have come out of the darkness into HIS marvelous light!!

I would love to meet you and your wife sometime when I'm in Florida.

*Blessings and joy in His Holy name,
J. P./TX*

Good Morning Pastor Webb,

I am currently teaching a marriage class called Heart and Soul of a Real Marriage by Bridge to Life Ministries out of Muskegon, Michigan. Any way. Whenever a class member engages me in a conversation about Marriage and Divorce I will repeat your words and then the next time we come to class I give the person who was interested a copy of your book "Till Death Do Us Part." I have two copies left so I will be re-ordering ten copies very soon.

I've been a fan of yours for around ten or twelve years now. In the world of marriage you are a rock star and that is not to detract from our holy God and Lord Jesus Christ at all. Just wanted you to know we love

and appreciate your God given ministry.

Serving Christ Together,

A. P.; MI

TESTIMONIALS OF VICTORY:

Below is an E-mail message sent to me from a phone conference line, which has invited me several times to answer questions directly to those who call in. The results have been very exciting and fruitful. I thank the Lord for the faithful way the ladies have extended themselves to minister to many needy individuals; seeking answers to very serious problems. Pray for them!

Pastor Webb,

Pastor Webb:

Here are some of the testimonies for the newsletter.

M & S, from Mo, totally restored. husband repented and came home. Left the other woman & has been happily restored in their covenant marriage for three years now.

S & A, from WV, after 7 years of being separated, husband left the other woman & told the child of that union who his real wife is. Their marriage was restored about a month ago. The husband gave his life to the Lord & was baptized.

A & G, from SC. A started with Marriage Covenant Ministries & was on our

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conference call-in every night. The Lord dissolved the relationship he was in and A & G are doing everything to please the Lord, as they work on their covenant marriage.

D&P answered the call of God on their lives; and repented of previous adulterous marriages (to previously married people;). They left those relationships and the Lord brought them back together. They now partner with Marriage Covenant Ministries, teaching the truth about marriage, divorce and remarriage; and they are a blessing to us.

These are just a few of the wonderful blessings God is doing in this hour. We come together daily and people from all over the USA; are repenting of adulterous remarriages and standing for their true spouse. It blesses my heart to see this wonderful move of God.

I thank our LORD & SAVIOR and all the steadfast forerunners like Pastor Joseph Webb, Pastor Casey Whitaker, Sharon Henry, Ken Rose, Pastor Johnny Lombardo and Pastor Ray McMahan. I cannot thank them enough for all they do.

If you are standing for your marriage covenant (2- 1st time marrieds) or if you have repented from an adulterous relationship; we are here for you every evening 9pm E.S.T. 424-203-8400 access #644411. If you want to hear our pre-recorded line for encouragement. teaching and

prayer 424-203-8409 access# 644411. Programs start at 9 PM. Much Love in Christ, F.A.B.

Hi Joseph,

Got your newsletter today - very thought provoking, as always. I thought you would be interested in reading the following:

My 83-year old mother memorized it and recited it at her church senior's tea. It goes along with your newsletter!

Also, R and I listened to part of one of your series about "Renewing Your Mind". It was excellent! We are looking forward to listening to the rest of the series.

God Bless R.

Poem: *The Padded Cross*

Well, here I am Lord.
You said, "Take up your cross,;
and I'm here to do it!
It's not easy, you know,
this self-denial thing.
I mean to go through with it
though - yes Sir!
I'll bet You wish more people
were willing to be disciples like
me.
I've counted the cost and
surrendered my
life, and it's not an easy road!
You mind if I look over these
crosses? I'd kind of like a new
one.
I'm not fussy, you understand,
but a disciple has to be relevant
these days.

I was wondering..are there any that are vinyl padded?

I'm thinking of attracting others. If I could show them a comfortable cross, I'm sure I could win many more. And I need something durable, so I can treasure it always.

Oh, is there one that's sort of flat so it would fit under my coat? One shouldn't be obvious! *Funny...there doesn't seem to be much choice* here - just that coarse, rough wood. I mean that would hurt.

Don't You have something more distinctive, Lord? I can tell You right now - none of my friends are going to be impressed by this shoddy workmanship! They'll think I'm a nut or something. And my family will be just mortified.

What's that? Are you telling me it's either one of these - or forget the whole thing?

But Lord, I want to be your disciple. I mean, just being with You - that's all that counts, but life has to have a balance too. But You don't understand - nobody lives that way today. Whose going to be attracted by this self-denial bit? I mean, I want to, but let's not overdo it! Start getting radical like this and they'll have me off to the funny farm, know what I mean? I mean, being a disciple is challenging and exciting and I want to do it; but I do have some rights, you

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know!

Now, let's see, no blood, ok? I just can't stand the thought of that, Lord. Lord? Jesus? Now where do you suppose He went?

R. & R. K. - CA



Points to Ponder:

>A truth that disheartens because it is true is of far more value than the most stimulating falsehoods. (internet)

If you finish high school, get a job, and get married BEFORE having children, you have a 98% chance of NOT being in poverty. World Magazine; April 6, 2013; page 55

>Seventy-one percent of low-income families are headed by single parents, according to U.S. Census data compiled by the Heritage Foundation. For families with children that live above the poverty line, the numbers reverse: 73% are married. World Mag. April 2013; Page 56



Morning & Evening Devotional

Readings: by Charles H. Spurgeon, revised and edited by William C. Neff 2003-05

As a Christian you have to live in the middle of an ungodly world, and it is of little use for you to cry, "woe is me." Jesus did not pray you should be taken out of the world, and what He didn't pray for you, you shouldn't desire. It is better to trust in the Lord's strength to meet the difficulties and glorify Him in it.

The enemy is ever on the watch to detect inconsistency in your conduct; therefore, be holy. Remember that the years of others are upon you and that more is expected from you than from others. Strive to give no occasion for blame. Let your goodness be the only fault they can find in you.

Seek to be useful as well as consistent. Maybe you think you cannot serve God until you're in "a more

favorable position." Not so! The worse the people are around you, the more they need your efforts. If they're crooked, it is more necessary that you are straight; if they're perverse, the more they need to see your good moral behavior. Shouldn't the physician be where there are many sick? Where does the soldier win honor but in the hottest fire of battle? And when you grow weary of the strife and sin that meets you on every hand, remember, all the saints of history have endured the same trial. They were not carried on beds of comfort to heaven, and you must not expect to travel more easily. They had to risk their lives unto death, and you will not be crowned until you also have endured hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. Therefore, stand fast in the faith where you are, and be strong.

Ref: Ephesians 6: 13-18

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UPDATE:

Along with experiencing new contacts and extensive counseling around the world on the Internet, we have been teaching on a phone conference call; (see details on page 5,6) answering questions concerning marriage, divorce and proper procedures for those trying to find God's way of dealing with these matters in their lives. We are finding there are many individuals hungry for truth and seeking fellowship with others who are learning to walk through these trials in their lives; knowing there are others of like faith, anxious to reach out and encourage others through their storms of life. May we encourage you to pray for these individuals as they minister to each other and witness to many others every day. We must remember to "bear one another's burdens."

Pat and I appreciate all of you who receive and read our newsletters. You have no idea how much we depend upon you for prayer and encouragement every month. We experience constant miracles; spiritually, physically, financially and emotionally every day. If ever you think no one appreciates you, please think again. You are a vital part of everything we do; every day.

We also appreciate it when you send us your prayer requests and pictures. It always helps whenever we can associate a face with the names of our partners. You become more like family to us. Thank you again for caring! God bless you! Joe & Pat Webb



First Class

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