

Divorce is Always Wrong! by Chris Garner

Yes, that's what I said, divorce is *always* wrong. We live in a society today that counts divorce as a constitutional right; that we should be able to leave our spouse for any and every reason. We remain married as long as it serves us, meets our needs and once we don't *feel* love any longer, we are on our way out of the marriage. Divorce is not the answer to a less than perfect, or even a bad marriage. It may take some work, but *every* marriage can become healthy and productive.

I could bring up the fact that God hates divorce; that the Bible says that whom God has brought together (in marriage), let man not separate and that God *commands* people not to separate or divorce. These arguments have been made over the years, but they don't have an effect on people any longer. People don't seem to care what God says about marriage; instead, they act on their feelings.

I could state the statistics of divorce; that children of divorce endure *serious* mental, psychological or emotional problems at two and a half times the rate of the general populace, that women suffer financially and emotionally after divorce, that men tend to disengage from their children and that there is a tremendous cost to divorce. People don't want to hear this and want to believe that *most people* do OK after a divorce and that children are resilient and rebound from the emotional nightmare of a divorce. They think that the pain they feel in the marriage will disappear once the divorce finalizes.

What I will say is that divorce is wrong because there was a *promise!* In front of God, family and friends, a man and a woman promised to love and care for each other *until death does them part*. Not until one doesn't *feel* love any longer, not until he or she doesn't meet the other's needs, not until he starts to abuse her or she cheats on him. UNTIL DEATH DOES THEM PART. Divorce breaks the promise and teaches children that their parent's word means nothing. Listen to Generation Xer Elizabeth Wurtzel; "We didn't learn to break promises and (marriage) vows from big bad bullies at school - we learned from watching our parents deny every word they once said to each other." Could wedding vows mean so little to people today that they would break their promises and destroy a family?

No, I do not advocate women enduring physical or emotional abuse or one spouse living with the continued infidelity of the other. One spouse may need to protect him or herself and may even legally separate, but that doesn't mean that one must divorce his or her spouse. Reconciliation can happen in any marriage and is *always* better than divorce. The only purpose for divorce is to *move on with his or her life*. In other words, find another spouse, like that will heal the wounds and make life better. It is entirely possible, that the abusive or philandering spouse will decide to mend his or her ways and work on the marriage. Counseling and effort by both spouses can restore the relationship and bring health to their marriage.

Divorce is always wrong because husbands and wives *promised* they would remain with each other until death. God did not divorce us when we turned our back on Him and rejected His ways. There are no insurmountable problems, if a couple will decide they want to make their marriage work and get help to work through the problems they face.