

## **MARRIAGE & DIVORCE—WHAT DOES SCRIPTURE SAY? (5)**

### **BY KEITH GREER**

My friends please look in Mr. Thayer's Greek-Lexicon, and it says, only used TWICE— and neither one of them is 1 Corinthians 7:15! What length men will go to prove a false doctrine! We need to be careful in believing the words of men without any study on our part!

So, was the apostle Paul referring to the marriage bond in 1 Corinthians 7:15? If we look at the original text, the word "doulou" not "dedoulatai" was used. Do the passages necessarily mean the same thing simply because they come from the same root word? There wasn't any Greek-English Lexicographer that I referenced that rendered "doulou" as referring to the marriage bond.

Obviously, we do not have to be Greek scholars to understand God's will, but why do we go back to the Greek at all? By the providence of God, the New Testament was originally written in KOINA GREEK. As a "dead language," it will never change. By studying the context of a passage as well as original word meanings, we can understand God's word more completely and know exactly what a passage is teaching.

In the case of the believer in 1 Corinthians 7:15, her "bondage" is not to man but to God. If her unbelieving mate departs, let him depart. The believer is never to give up his or her faith and service to God for the unbelieving mate.

Please remember this also. No matter how many times you read 1 Corinthians 7, and no matter how much you may want it to be there, the term "**marry another**" is not there. 1 Corinthians 7 simply does not give "another" cause for divorce and remarriage.

When all the passages are put together, we must have complete harmony. To try to allow "another" cause for divorce and remarriage opens the flood gates for anything else that follows. That, my friends, is exactly what has taken place.

"And with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion that they should believe the lie that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness." (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12)

"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." (Genesis 2:24) We have God's pattern "from the beginning", and marriage is one of our blessings from Him. Instead of trying to find "loopholes," let's try to make our homes what God would have them to be.

This article concludes our study of the subject of DIVORCE & REMARRIAGE. Sadly, I well know that many do not agree upon these conclusions, yet from my study on the subject I believe my teaching to be the truth. Over the years of studying the issue, attending several debates on the subject, and giving much prayer and thought as to what I will teach, I've arrived at a very sad conclusion. Many

are leading folks into eternal damnation, simply because of pride and seeking to justify a particular marriage situation.

Many discussions I've had over the years, with those whose teachings I disagree with, in almost every case they are seeking to justify a loved one in an unscriptural marriage. Unfortunately, men have gone so far in their thinking, they will lose their souls over a physical relationship. Did they forget the words of our Lord? **"What shall it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul? What will a man give in exchange for his soul?"** \*\*\*