

Coburg Road Church of Christ

June 9, 2019



Marriage & Divorce #7 - Divorce in the Old Testament #1

The
Biggest Problem
In the
UNIVERSE



(Of Marriage / Divorce Controversies)

Don't Know

And / Or

Don't Apply

The Law of Moses

MATTHEW 19:3f

“Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?” He answered, “Have you not read ?...”

(Quotes GENESIS 2)

Matthew 19:7 They said, “Why did Moses command ?...”

(Quotes DEUTERONOMY 24)

ROMANS 7:1

Do you not know, brethren,
(for I am speaking to those
who know the law)...



Divorce in the Old Testament

LEVITICUS 20:10

If a man commits adultery with another man's wife... the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.

Virtually NEVER done...
No witnesses



Divorce in the Old Testament

LEVITICUS 21:7, 14

Priests shall not take a woman who is profaned by harlotry, nor shall they take a woman divorced from her husband...

A widow, a divorced woman, or one profaned by harlotry, priests may not take; but rather he is to marry a virgin...

OTHER men MAY marry them



Divorce in the Old Testament

NUMBERS 5:11-31

If a wife goes astray and a man has intercourse with her and she is undetected, there is no witness, and she has not been caught in the act...

WATERS OF BITTERNESS

If she's GUILTY:

Cursed, barren, bears guilt

No witnesses, so...

Deuteronomy 24 applies



Divorce in the Old Testament

NUMBERS 5:11-31

If a wife goes astray and a man has intercourse with her and she is undetected, there is no witness, and she has not been caught in the act...

WATERS OF BITTERNESS

**If she's INNOCENT:
She's Free & Fertile
He has no guilt**



Divorce in the Old Testament

DEUTERONOMY 22:13-21

If a man takes a wife, goes in to her and then turns against her, and publicly defames her, saying, 'When I came near her, I did not find her a virgin...

IF SHE'S INNOCENT

He's fined 100 months' wages
(8 years & 4 months!)

Most would become slaves

Never divorce her EVER



Divorce in the Old Testament

DEUTERONOMY 22:13-21

If a man takes a wife, goes in to her and then turns against her, and publicly defames her, saying, ‘When I came near her, I did not find her a virgin...

IF SHE’S GUILTY
She’s stoned to death
Parents “are” witnesses



Divorce in the Old Testament

DEUTERONOMY 24:1-4

When a man marries a wife and she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some **NAKEDNESS** in her...

Certificate of Divorce
She's Free to Marry Again
Must NEVER go back to 1st

Why So Terribly Controversial And Contested?

Baptism

One PRODIGIOUSLY Important Reason...

NOT PROPERLY TRANSLATED

Deuteronomy 24:1 “indecenty”)

Hebrew word for “Nakedness”

IN THE WHOLE BIBLE

Used 94 times in 74 verses

85 times it must mean “physically NUDE”

9 times metaphorically

Genesis 2:25 Adam & Ever were both **naked**, and were not ashamed.

Genesis 9:22f Ham saw the **nakedness** of his father, and told his brothers. Shem and Japheth took a garment... went backward, and covered the **nakedness** of their father... so they did not see their father's **nakedness**.

Genesis 42:9-12 Joseph said, "You are spies. You came to see the **nakedness** of the land." They said, "No, we came to buy food." And he said to them, "No, you came to see the **nakedness** of the land."

Exodus 20:26 You shall not go up by steps to mine altar, so that your **nakedness** will not be exposed.

Exodus 28:42 Make linen breeches to cover their **nakedness**; **from the loins even unto the thighs** they shall reach...



**Deuteronomy 24:1 “indecenty”)
Hebrew word for “Nakedness”**

IN THE WHOLE BIBLE

**90% OF THE TIME
ACTUALLY, PERSONALLY NUDE**

**Deuteronomy 24:1 “indecenty”)
Hebrew word for “Nakedness”**

IN THE FIVE BOOKS OF MOSES

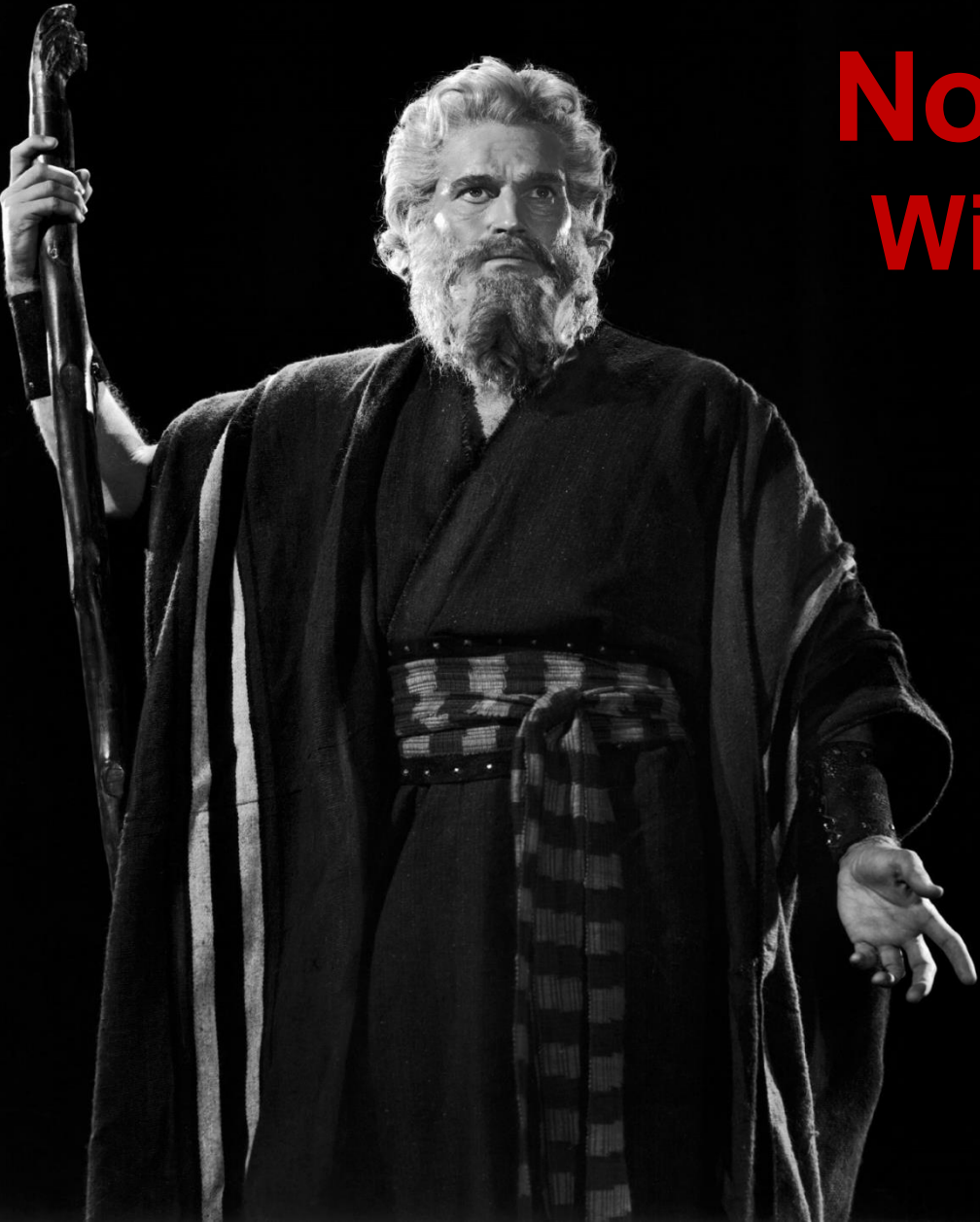
**95.5% OF THE TIME
ACTUALLY, PERSONALLY NUDE**

**Deuteronomy 24:1 “indecenty”)
Hebrew word for “Nakedness”**

IN THE BOOK OF LEVITICUS

**100% OF THE TIME
ACTUALLY, PERSONALLY NUDE**

LEVITICUS WAS LAW FOR 39 YEARS



Now Deuteronomy 24 says,
Wife is guilty of nakedness sin:

1. Husband may divorce her
2. She may marry another
3. NEVER return to 1st man



Divorce in the Old Testament

Ezra 10:2f

We have been unfaithful to God and **married women from the peoples of the land...** let us put away all the wives and their children according to the law.

NOTHING to do with
Virginity or adultery.
EXODUS forbid these unions



Divorce in the Old Testament

JEREMIAH 3:8

For all the adulteries of faithless Israel, I sent her away and gave her a certificate of divorce, yet her sister Judah did not fear but was a harlot also....

Certificate of Divorce

Why?

She was an adulteress,
Guilty of PORNEIA



Divorce in the Old Testament

MALACHI 2:14-16

“She is your companion and wife by covenant. Let no one deal treacherously against the wife of your youth for I hate divorce,” says the God of Israel, “So take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal deal treacherously.”

**“Covenant” appears FIVE times
God hates divorce BECAUSE
it breaks COVENANT**

