

The Westminster Confession of Faith

Chapter 24

Of Marriage and Divorce

1. Marriage is to be between one man and one woman: neither is it lawful for any man to have more than one wife, nor for any woman to have more than one husband, at the same time.

2. Marriage was ordained for the mutual help of husband and wife, for the increase of mankind with legitimate issue, and of the Church with an holy seed; and for preventing of uncleanness.

3. It is lawful for all sorts of people to marry, who are able with judgment to give their consent. Yet it is the duty of Christians to marry only in the Lord. And therefore such as profess the true reformed religion should not marry with infidels, papists, or other idolaters: neither should such as are godly be unequally yoked, by marrying with such as are notoriously wicked in their life, or maintain damnable heresies.

4. Marriage ought not to be within the degrees of consanguinity or affinity forbidden by the Word. Nor can such incestuous marriages ever be made lawful by any law of man or consent of parties, so as those persons may live together as man and wife.

5. Adultery or fornication committed after a contract, being detected before marriage, giveth just occasion to the innocent party to dissolve that contract. In the case of adultery after marriage, it is lawful for the innocent party to sue out a divorce: and, after the divorce, to marry another, as if the offending party were dead.

6. Although the corruption of man be such as is apt to study arguments, unduly to put asunder those whom God hath joined together in marriage; yet nothing but adultery, or such wilful desertion as can no way be remedied by the Church, or civil magistrate, is cause sufficient of dissolving the bond of marriage: wherein, a public and orderly course of proceeding is to be observed; and the persons concerned in it not left to their own wills, and discretion, in their own case.

SERMON WORKSHEET
Sunday 18th September, 2011 - AM service
“What Christian Marriage Isn’t!”

READINGS: 1)..... 2).....
TOPIC:

INTRODUCTION

Christian marriage is for: *Tick right box*

a) 1 man and 1 woman b) children being born out of it c) everyone to be part of
The Articles 4 till 6 have a different focus because it begins “Marriage ought N..... to be”

1 - WHO YOU CAN'T BE MARRIED TO

“Consanguinity” describes a relationship that is by B.....

“Affinity” describes a relationship that is through M.....

What is prohibited under present Australian law is a man marrying his:

a) grandmother b) auntie c) granddaughter d) wife’s sister

These prohibited relationships as are also called N..... restrictions (Leviticus 18)

The in-marriage of Adam and Noah’s families means it is okay: YES / NO *Cross out wrong one*

What the world calls “love” today is actually L.....

2 - WHEN THE MARRIAGE FALLS THROUGH

Article 5 speaks in a legalistic way because there is an I..... and G..... party

Paul shows in 1st Corinthians : how adultery breaks the marriage bond

A major reason why homosexual marriage came about is because of no-fault D.....

The two pastors here in Victoria presenting a seminar about Islam were convicted because:

a) they misrepresented Islam b) someone’s feelings were hurt

The bottom line for L..... is that there is no bottom line! (Matthew :)

The affairs of the H..... have to have clear boundaries

Joseph thought Mary had committed adultery till the angel told him otherwise in Matt.... ;...

3 - WHAT YOU OUGHT TO DO

The woman who was a DPB beneficiary answered that without the DPB she would have:

a) managed alright on her own b) had to have continued being married

When Article 6 speaks about “studying arguments” it’s describing E..... we make

Christian have a lot less divorce rate than the general population: TRUE / FALSE ?

The ‘wilful desertion’ in Article 6 is about when someone:

a) feels it’s too hard to stay married b) unbelieving leaves a newly believing spouse

This is what we read about in 1st Corinthians, especially in verse

When someone’s spouse has committed adultery or left them they have to:

a) straight-away get remarried b) seek counselling c) follow a legal process

Would you say it’s better for families to stay together? YES / NO ?

Christians have every reason to expect a life-long marriage especially because they:

a) get counselling before the wedding b) they come together in prayer