

Romans 7:2-3

By Ron Boatwright

In Romans 7:2-3 we read, "For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man." Here God says that a person is bound to their spouse as long as their spouse lives. God's law on marriage is one husband, for one wife, for life.

We also see from the above two verses that there can be a vast difference between being married and being bound. As far as God is concerned even though a person may get a divorce and remarry someone else, she is still bound to her first husband for as long as he lives. How long? As long as he lives. As we see in Matthew 19:6, "Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate." God does the joining and the joining is for life. No one has the right or the authority to separate what God has joined.

But what happens if there is a divorce and remarriage as is so common today? Romans 7:3 says, "So then if while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress." Notice if she is married to another, the adultery continues all the "while her husband lives". The adultery is not "point action" as some would like to wishfully believe and teach, but is continuous while her former husband lives. She is still bound to and under obligation to her former husband. According to God's inspired word, the only way she is free to remarry and not be an adulteress is "if her husband be dead". Could God have made it any clearer?

Concerning an adulterer we read in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, "Do not be deceived, neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals...will inherit the kingdom of God." An adulterer cannot go to Heaven. There will be no adulterers in Heaven. If one does not go to Heaven with the few, he will have to go to Hell with the many (Matthew 7:13-14). Such is a sobering reality. We dare not teach anything other than God's truth lest we also lose our own souls.