

# The Question of Remarriage

By *Ron Boatwright*

A preacher was asked what his stand was on Marriage, Divorce, & Remarriage. His reply was "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced from her husband commits adultery." He was accused by his questioner of being a legalist. No, he was only quoting what our Lord said in Luke 16:18. This means that those marriages which do not agree with God's word are not legitimate marriages in God's eyes, for how could they be both adultery and a marriage? It is not possible that God would join two people in marriage through the act of adultery. Too long we in the Lord's church have tiptoed around the subject of the remarriage of divorced persons. People's souls are at stake!

But what if one does divorce and remarry? The Bible says in Romans 7:2-3, "For the woman who has a husband is bound by 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 shall 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." Notice if she is married to another, the adultery continues all the "while her husband lives". That which is sacred and holy in marriage is immoral and sinful outside of a scriptural marriage. So, if two people remarry while a former spouse lives the two live in a continuous state of adultery.

The Bible says that an adulterer **will not** go to Heaven (1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Galatians 5:19-21). Our number one priority in this life must be to go to Heaven. The eternal destinies of souls are involved. As long as a person is living in adultery, this removes all hope of his going to Heaven. We cannot help but have compassion for adulterers in their lost and sinful state, but in our compassion we dare not change clear Biblical teaching lest we also lose our own souls.