

Grace to You :: *esp Unleashing God's Truth, One Verse at a Time*

May a Christian who is divorced remarry if he was divorced as a non-Christian?

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 7:27–28, 1 Corinthians 7:20

Code: QA514

Yes. Paul explicitly says in 1 Corinthians 7:27-28: “Are you bound [married] to a wife? Do not seek to be released [divorced]. Are you released [previously been divorced] from a wife? Do not seek [to be married to] a wife. But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin [one who has never before been married] marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you.”

Those two verses, however, apply only to those who were divorced before becoming Christians. Paul had told the Corinthians earlier that “each man must remain in that condition in which he was called [to salvation]” (1 Corinthians 7:20). But he follows that up immediately with the statement that even though they have become Christians while in the state of divorce, they should stay that way. But if they nonetheless choose to remarry, he is not suggesting they are in sin. They should however, marry only a believer.

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