

Testament are instructed to let God be supreme in all things and His leadership will then be plain and their lives blessed. Thanks for being with us today and may God's word be a rich blessing as well as an encouragement to you in every day of your walk in this world.

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**Lesson # 40**

Deuteronomy 24:1-5

PRIMARY DOMESTIC RELATIONSHIP

I. Introduction

Greetings to you in the Lord's name and thanks for being with us again in our continuing Deuteronomy lessons. We come today to one of the most debated sections of the book and I am devoting this study to just Deuteronomy 24:1-5, the basic section treating matters of divorce in the law and the passage used by Jesus as the basis for His teaching in Matthew 19:1-9. Because this aspect of life is so often a great cause of disagreement in Christian circles, I want to mention a few things about our treatment while we proceed.

First: The passage limits itself sharply to very well defined issues. It is not a commentary on the total subject or an answer to every situation. The complexity of divorce, remarriage, etc., is beyond this passage but in what it does touch and stress it is blunt and clear.

Second: We are not going to use the passage to try and correct or contradict any church constitution or doctrinal posture. The church as a body politic must determine those things and it does not need destructive criticism from random Bible teachers.

Third: The great principle of God's desire for a blessed union is clear in the passage and we would do well to lay more stress on that.

Fourth: The meanings assigned by the Lord Jesus must be received as the Word of God. They are clear in statement but the wider applications perplex us in some ways.

Fifth: There needs to be a charity and discernment factor in looking at the spirit of the law as well as at the letter.

So I suppose I have given enough qualifications now and need to get to the text. But remember these things in order to better consider what is there. And, without doubt, study the matters yourself in a prayerful, gracious, and reflective manner. We are, in these programs, trying to study the Scripture and attempt not to dogmatize when we do not need to...or are not required to...while being emphatic about what is taught and how it should be used.