It Is Not Lawful

Tony Mauck · Mark 6:17–20

INTRODUCTION

- For John had been saying to Herod, it is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.
- If you silence the messenger, the message doesn't go away.
- God cares about marriage vows and the permanency of the arrangement, and he's gonna hold us accountable even if churches do not.

1 Our First Word: Bound

1 Corinthians 7:39; Matthew 19:6; Ecclesiastes 9

- A wife is bound as long as her husband lives. But if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes only in the Lord.
- If you're in a marriage of which God does not approve, then he will not allow you to stay in that union.
- But if you're in a God approved marriage, then you need to stay that way.
- What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.
- Marriage is designed for companionship, help, friendship, even pleasure, and the enjoyment of family. But it is not the answer to every problem.
- God never designed marriage to be the end all and be all of our existence. It's designed for our betterment and our health.

2 Married: Meeting Societal or Government Requirements

Mark 6:17; Romans 13

- God has not bound in the relationship of Herod and Herodias. But the text clearly says married.
- The scripture, when it talks about people who are married, may do so of those who are approved by God or those that are unapproved.
- Just because you're married, or even just because you're divorced, as we'll see in a minute, does not mean that God has approved of that union.
- Many who are married are not bound. That is that they are in unions of which God does not approve.
- We must comply with local and national government and societal standards as to what constitutes marriage.

3 Let's Talk About Divorce

Matthew 5:32; Matthew 19:9

- And whoever marries a divorced woman, anyone who is put away with cause or no cause, whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

- There must first be cause and then the compliance with the government requirements in order to put away one's mate.
- It is not necessary for one whose mate has been unfaithful for divorce to take place.
- The unbinding does not occur until these two things happen in sequence? Pornea and the actual putting away by government societal requirement.
- You see how subjective this becomes when we don't meet these objective requirements to become unbounded.
- There's a lot of unfair, cruel, unjust things that happen in the world.

THE CHALLENGE

So whatever challenges, whatever costs, this life really isn't that long. We think it's a long time. Man, I've got my whole life, I've got 20 or 30 years. It's not that long. Serve the Lord, and ultimately there'll be no regrets.

MY NOTES