

JOSEPH TO PUTAWAY

Matt 1:18-20

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When **as** his mother Mary was **(1)espoused** to Joseph, **(2)before** they **(3)came together**, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19 **Then** Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.(KJV)

Definitions: (1)espoused to Joseph-3423 mnesteuo (mnace-tyoo'-o);from a derivative of 3415; to give a souvenir (**engagement present**), i.e. **betroth: KJV-- espouse. 3423 mnesteuo-to woo her and ask her in marriage, to be promised in marriage, to be betrothed**

(2)before they-4250 prin (prin);adverb from 4253; prior, sooner, before, formerly: KJV-- before (that), ere.

(3)came together-4905 sunerchomai (soon-er'-khom-ahee);from 4862 and 2064; to convene, depart in company with, associate with, or (specifically) **cohabit (conjugally): (NOTE: Conjugal, to join, unite in marriage)KJV-- accompany, assemble (with), come (together), come (company, go) with, resort.**

So we see, according to scripture, (matt.1:18) what Joseph found, had to have happened before marriage (fornication). Joseph was right according to the law, he was a just man (Matt.1:19). There seemed to have been other reasons to put away a wife in the old law:

Deut 24:1-4

1 When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass **that she find no favour in his eyes**, because he **hath found some uncleanness in her**: then let him **write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house.**

2 **And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's wife.**

3 **And if the latter husband hate her**, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife;

4 Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the LORD: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance. (KJV)

Matt 19:3-6

3 The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, **Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?**

4 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,

5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: **and they twain shall be one flesh?**

6 **Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh.** What therefore **God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.**

7 They say unto him, **Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?** (KJV)

But the lord, it seems to me, is making it clear about the only way of putting away. in this next set of scripture the lord states “except it be for *fornication*”, not adultery. the example of such was what joseph was about to do (Matt.1:19).

Matt 19:8-10

8 He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.

9 And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, **except it be for fornication,** and **shall marry another, committeth adultery:** and **whoso marrieth her** which is put away **doth commit adultery.**

10 His disciples say unto him, **If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry.**

John 8:1-11

1 Jesus went unto the mount of Olives.

2 And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them.

3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst,

4 **They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.**

5 **Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?**

6 This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not.

7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and **said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.**

8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground.

9 And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

10 **When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?**

11 She said, No man, Lord. **And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.**(KJV)

This woman was taken in the very act of *adultery*, not *fornication*. what did the lord say to her? he didn't say that anyone should or would be put away. in keeping with scripture, what he said was and I quote **“Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.”**

Brother, we love you and Sister Bonny, and hope that the truth will be accepted as it is written and not by what any man should say.

PS:

Brother, our conscience is scripturally clear on this matter, and we will keep you in our prayers.

2 Tim 3:16-17

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.