



BELIEVE

# DESERTION BY “CHRISTIAN” SPOUSES (Part 2)

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JOEY FAUST (10-12-22)

**1 Corinthians 7:12 But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away.**

**13 And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him.**

**15 But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.**

**1 Peter 3:1 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any **obey not the word**, they also may without the word **be won** by the conversation of the wives;**

**2 While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.**

**Matthew 18:17** And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but **if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.**

**18** Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

**Matthew 24:48** But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming;

**49** And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken;

**50** The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of,

**51** And shall cut him asunder, and **appoint him his portion with the hypocrites**: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

**Luke 12:46 The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.**

**Ephesians 5:6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.**

**7 Be not ye therefore partakers with them.**

**1 Corinthians 3:14** If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

**15** If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but **he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.**



John 20:27 Then saith he to  
Thomas, Reach hither thy finger,  
and behold my hands; and reach  
hither thy hand, and thrust it  
into my side: and **be not  
faithless, but believing.**

**1 Peter 4:14** If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye...

**15** But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

**16** Yet **if any man suffer as a Christian**, let him not be ashamed...

Acts 11:26...And the  
disciples were **called**  
**Christians** first in Antioch.

John 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which **believed** on him, **If ye continue** in my word, then are ye **my disciples indeed;**

**Luke 14:26** If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he **cannot be my disciple.**

**27** And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, **cannot be my disciple.**

**33** So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he **cannot be my disciple.**

**1 Corinthians 3:3 For ye are yet  
carnal: for whereas there is  
among you envying, and  
strife, and divisions, are ye not  
carnal, and walk as men?**

**Matthew 18:17** And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, **let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.**

**1 Corinthians 7:15 But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.**



Ephesians 4:17 This I say  
therefore, and testify in the Lord,  
that ye henceforth **walk not**  
**as other Gentiles walk**, in the  
vanity of their mind,

Mark 16:16 He that believeth  
and is baptized shall be saved;  
but he that **believeth not**  
shall be damned.

Hebrews 3:12 Take heed,  
brethren, lest there be in any of  
you an evil heart of unbelief, in  
departing from the living God.  
19 So we see that they could not  
enter in **because of unbelief.**

**Hebrews 4:2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.**

Hebrews 4:11 Let us labour  
therefore to enter into that rest,  
lest any **man fall** after the  
same example of **unbelief.**

**1 John 5:13** These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and **that ye may believe** on the name of the Son of God.

**1 Corinthians 7:15 But if the  
unbelieving depart, let him depart.  
A brother or a sister is not under  
bondage **in such cases**: but God hath  
called us to peace.**

Matthew 19:10 His  
disciples say unto him, **If**  
**the case** of the man be so  
with his wife, it is not good  
to marry.



Deuteronomy 19:4 And  
this **is the case** of the  
slayer, which shall flee  
thither, that he may  
live...

Psalm 144:15 Happy is that  
people, that **is in such a  
case:** yea, happy is that  
people, whose God is the  
Lord.

2 Corinthians 2:6 Sufficient  
to **such a man** is this  
punishment, which was  
inflicted of many.

**Galatians 5:21 Envyings, murders,  
drunkenness, revellings, and such like:  
of the which I tell you before, as I have  
also told you in time past, that they  
which do such things shall not inherit  
the kingdom of God.**

Wayne Grudem:

"I found several examples [outside the Bible] where this phrase clearly referred to more kinds of situations than the specific situation that the author was discussing. Here are some of those examples..."

**"[Paul] must have been persuaded that desertion by an unbeliever destroyed a marriage as much as adultery did...when he uses the broad category 'in such cases,' he suggests that other situations might also be included, following the same line of reasoning."**

**(Wayne Grudem)**

**"Christian writers on the subject of adultery, divorce and remarriage, beginning in the middle of the second century and continuing at least until Augustine...never call the following persons adulterers: (1) A husband who remarries after dismissing an adulterous wife. (2) A husband who remarries after being abandoned by his wife. (3) A woman who marries a man in either of these two cases."**

**(Theodore Mackin, Catholic scholar)**

**"The apostle absolves and declares the husband or wife free where an unchristian husband or wife has departed, or will not allow the other to live a Christian life, and he grants such a one the right and privilege to marry again. What Paul says here in regard to a heathen husband or wife is to be understood also in regard to a false Christian..."**

**(Luther, on 1 Cor 7; in 1523)**



**Luther, Living as Husband and Wife, (1523):**

**"The third case for divorce is that in which one of the parties deprives and avoids the other, refusing to fulfil the conjugal duty or to live with the other person...."**

**“For example, one finds many a stubborn wife...who cares not a whit whether her husband falls into the sin of unchastity ten times over...first the husband should admonish and warn his wife two or three times, and let the situation be known to others so that her stubbornness becomes a matter of common knowledge and is rebuked before the congregation...”**

**"...her sin [adultery] ought of no right to bind him...What if the man run from his wife and leave her desolate?...[after he is banished by magistrates]...let the wife be free to marry where she will...if the woman depart causeless and will not be reconciled, though she commit none adultery, the man ought of right to be free to marry again."**

**(Tyndal, 1536)**

**"In the manner of divorce the Divine Word frees the innocent person when the husband or wife has dissolved the bond of marriage by adultery, and it concedes to the innocent person, when the case has been decided judicially, the right to contract another marriage...The same is held in regard to a person who is unrighteously deserted..."**

**(Melancthon, 1551)**

**"Again, be it that the one is resolutely unwilling to dwell with the other, and thereupon flies away without any fault of the other: if the thing after a long space be sufficiently known before-hand, and all probable means have been used, to reclaim the guilty person..." (William Perkins, 1618)**

**"...after public and solemn declarations made, the Minister upon such desertion may pronounce the marriage to be dissolved. For he that upon malice flieth away from his mate, is to be holden in the same terms as with an unbeliever, who departs upon detestation of religion, and the service of God, I Timothy 5:8..." (William Perkins, 1618)**

**"Suppose that an husband which is an unbeliever or a heretic in the foundation of his own accord, upon detestation of true religion, quite forsakes the believing wife and denies any more to dwell with her: what is to be done? The answer is relatively, straightforward: 'All good means must be used to bring the infected party to repentance; and when none will succeed, but the case remaineth desperate, then marriage is dissolved on his part, and the believing wife is free to marry another.'"**

**(William Perkins)**

**"In the case of adultery after marriage, it is lawful for the innocent party to sue out a divorce: and, after the divorce, to marry another, as if the offending party were dead...Nothing but adultery, or such wilful desertion as can no way be remedied by the church or civil magistrate, is cause sufficient of dissolving the bond of marriage."**

**(Westminster Confession of Faith, 1646)**



**"...the husband's voluntary leaving his wife, or the wife's voluntary leaving her husband, with a resolution to return no more to them, breaks also the bond of marriage, frustrating it as to the ends for which God hath appointed it; and, after all due means used to bring again the party departing to their duty, doth certainly free the correlate." (Matthew Poole)**