

## **Annunciation Parish - Scripture Study 9/28/21**

—Greeting and Opening Prayer

Any thoughts or questions from scripture passages you have read?

- Other faith questions?

### **READINGS:**

Gn 2:18-24

Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives)

Heb 2:9-11

Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

### **GOSPEL:**

- Standard Pharisee tactic. Try to bring Jesus into a dispute about when it is lawful to divorce. However he answers he would be in bad odor with some group. “They were testing him.”
- The question the law - so he refers them to the law “what dis Moses command”
- After they state the Moses permitted a man to divorce his wife (still leaving the question of ... for what? ... unanswered). Jesus states that this was an accommodation because they could not accept the truth of what God intended.
  - Shows the progressive movement God makes over time gradually revealing as much truth as people could absorb.
  - Shows Jesus as supreme lawgiver - superior to Moses, the Author able to interpret scripture authoritatively - after all he IS God.
- He quotes Genesis in the creation account.
  - God’s will is shown in the very fabric of creation - how God created displays the intent (“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands”, Ps 19:1).
  - The union of man and woman in marriage is mysterious - there is a joining of bodies such that they are no longer two but one. Has important implications for how we understand our bodily union to Christ.
    - Paul quoting the same passage from Genesis in Ephesians follows with “This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.” Ephesians 5:31-32
- This is the reason for the Church’s teaching about marriage and divorce - because Jesus expressly says this. Also because it betrays the image of the relationship of God to people and Christ to the Church of which Marriage is a sacramental sign. God is faithful to death and does not divorce us.
- We must accept the kingdom of God with the simplicity of a child.

### **FIRST READING:**

- This is the passage to which Jesus is referring in the Gospel. Notice the rawest of the images being used to communicate them being of one flesh.

### **SECOND READING:**

- Jesus becomes for a while lower than the angels - so that he might taste death for us.
- The union in the flesh of humanity allows him to stand in humanity’s place as a sacrifice (that humanity actually owes). However, on the other side, our union with his nature allows us to have eternal life.

—Closing Prayer