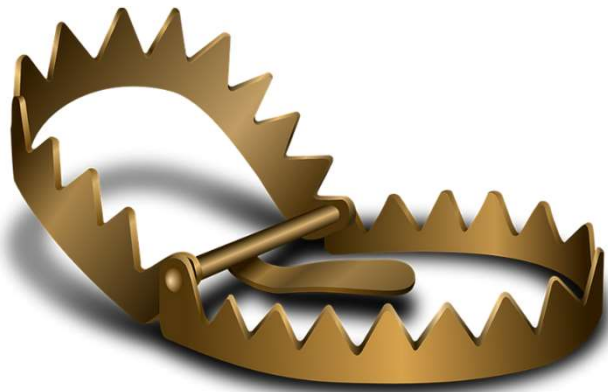


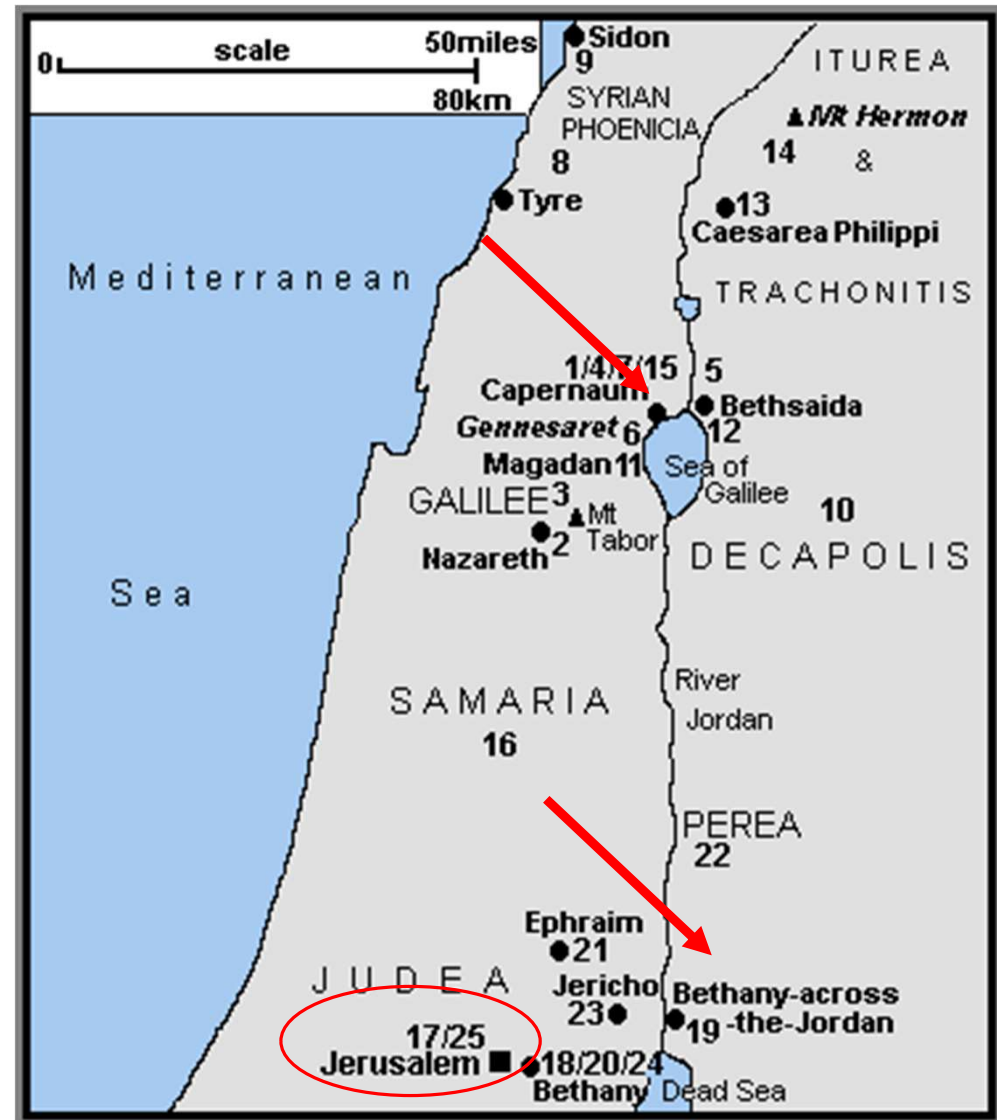
What entraps us?

Mark 12:1-10



Mark 10:1,2

Jesus then left that place (Capernaum) and went into the region of Judea and across the Jordan. Again crowds of people came to him, and as was his custom, he taught them. Some Pharisees came.....

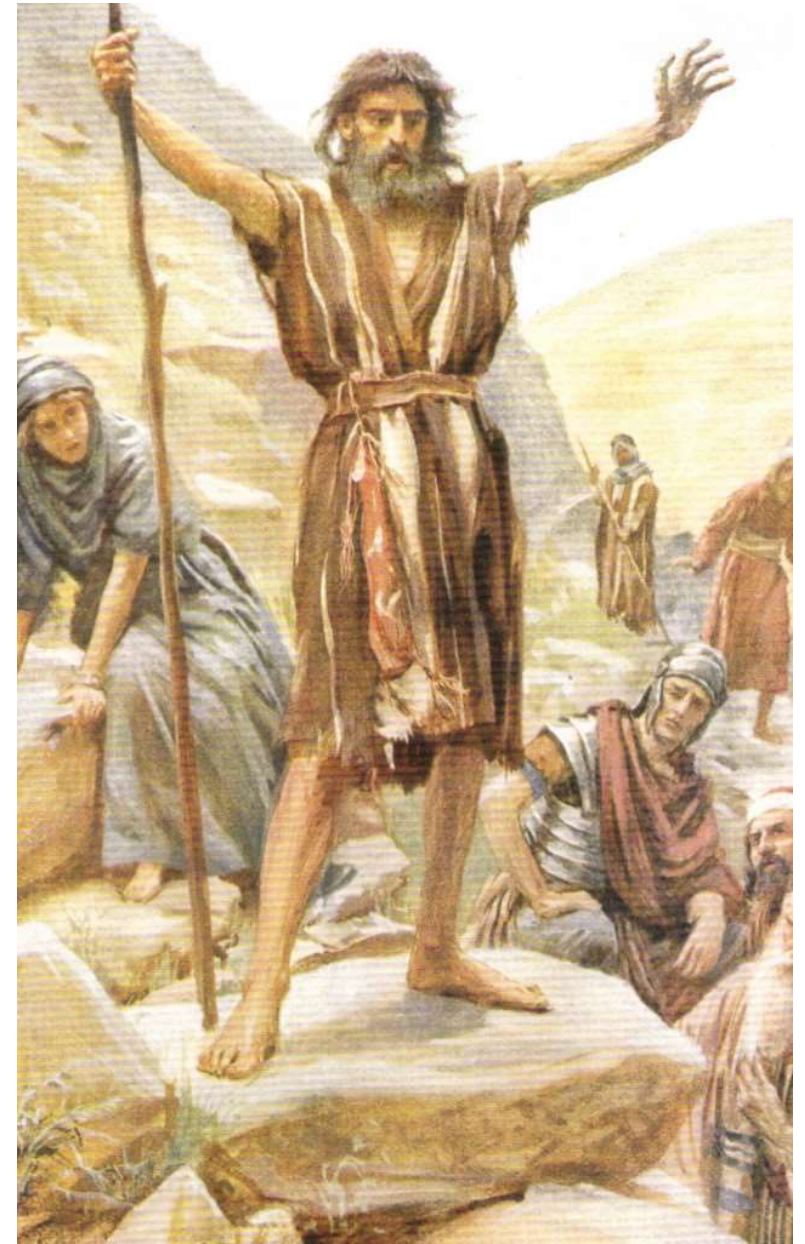


1. Jesus moves towards Jerusalem

Pharisees arrive to gather evidence to lead to his arrest

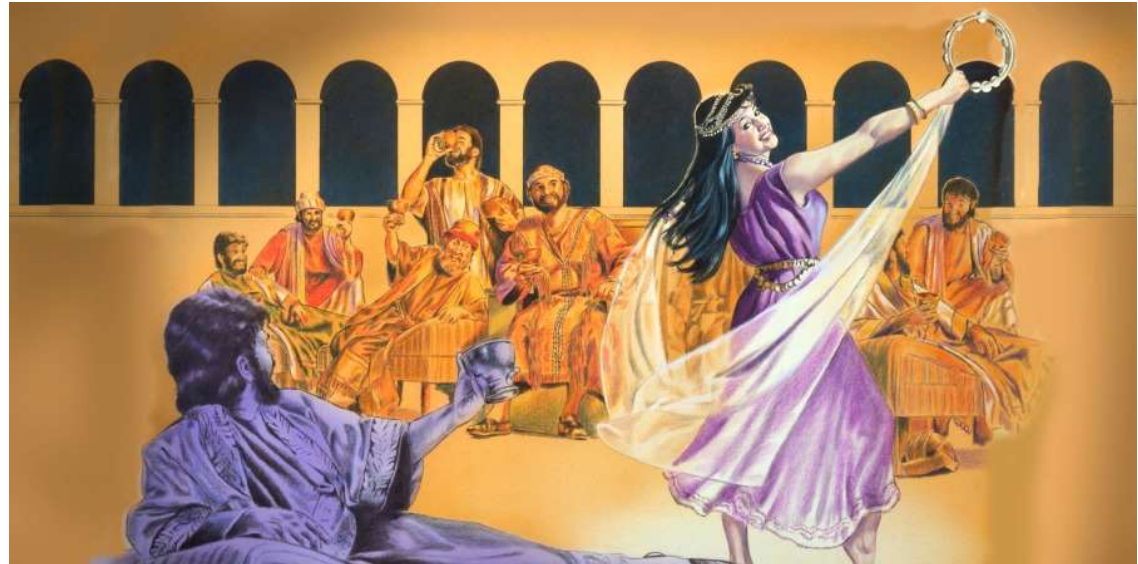


1. *Jesus moves towards Jerusalem*
 1. *Pharisees arrive to gather evidence to lead to his arrest*
 2. *A relevant backstory*

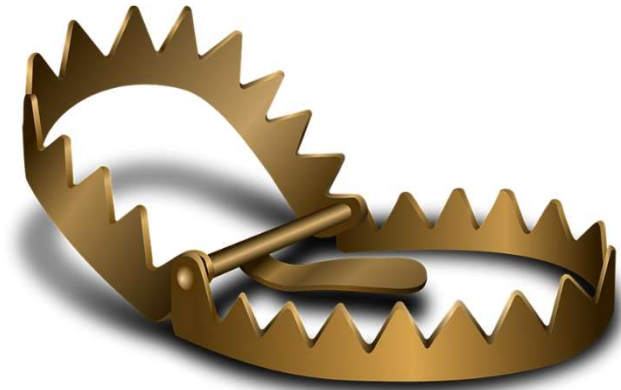


The Relevant Backstory (Mark 6:21)

Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee.
22 When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests. The king said to the girl, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you."



1. *Jesus moves towards Jerusalem*
 1. *Pharisees arrive to gather evidence to lead to his arrest*
 2. *A relevant backstory*
 3. *The question*
 - No intention of learning from Jesus*
 - Intention to entrap*



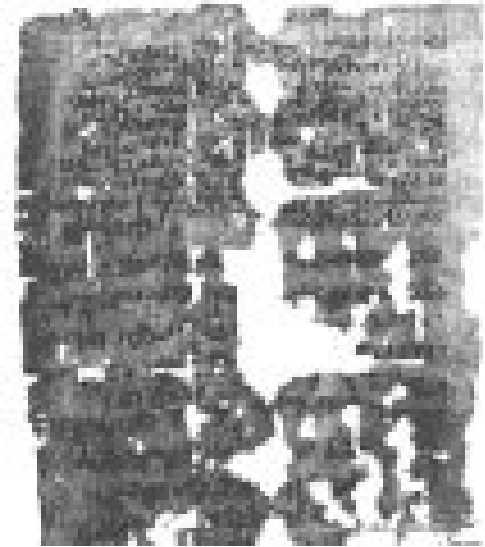
The Trap of the Pharisees (v2)

2 Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking,

*"Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"
(Matt 19:3 ..for any and every reason?").*



The OT Law:
Living before God in a fallen world



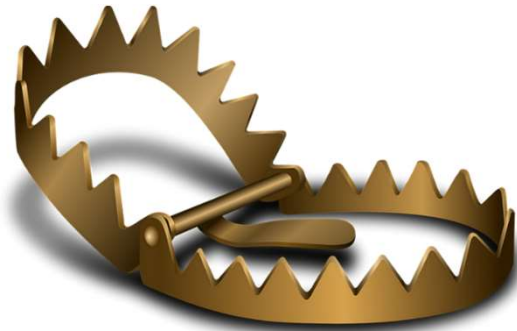
Deuteronomy 24

- 1 If a man marries a woman who becomes displeasing to him because he finds something indecent about her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce, gives it to her and sends her from his house,
- 2 and if after she leaves his house she becomes the wife of another man,
- 3 and her second husband dislikes her and writes her a certificate of divorce, gives it to her and sends her from his house, or if he dies,
- 4 then her first husband, who divorced her, is not allowed to marry her again after she has been defiled. That would be detestable in the eyes of the LORD. Do not bring sin upon the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance.

The Trap of the Pharisees (v2)

Leading question

- To get Jesus to agree that divorce should be granted*
- To lead Jesus into their win however He answers*



The Trap of the Pharisees (v2)

If Jesus answered no-

They could have created support to their end game with Roman authorities. They would be able to accuse Jesus of inciting rebellion against what Rome had granted to Jewish leadership. They could help prompt Herod's personal actions from the back story (John the Baptist is back!)

The Trap of the Pharisees (v2)

If Jesus answered yes-

They would be able to claim that Jesus was ignoring the laws and their interpretations of it on this topic

They would use this to unite the resolve by both powers around their plan to get rid of this threat

3 "What did Moses command you?" he replied.

4 They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."

5 "It was because **your hearts were hard** that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied.

6 "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.'

7 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife,
8 and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one.

9 Therefore what God has joined together, **let man not separate.**"



Jesus turns the trap on them (v4-6)

Haven't you read the Creator's words?

*Why are you not focussing
on God's design?*

*Why are so entrapped
that you cannot see?*



God's
intention in
creation



& living
before God
in a fallen



Jesus'
teaching for
His people



Apostolic
application



God's
intention in
creation



Genesis 2

18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

The OT Law:
Living before God in
a fallen world



God's Commandments: Exodus 20

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

17" You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife.."

Ex 20:14 "You shall not commit adultery.

Le 20:10 "If a man commits adultery with another man's wife — with the wife of his neighbour — **both the adulterer and the adulteress must be put to death.**

Ps 51:1 For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

Pr 6:32 But a man who commits adultery lacks judgment; whoever does so destroys himself.

Jer 3:6 During the reign of King Josiah, the LORD said to me, "Have you seen what faithless Israel has done? She has gone up on every high hill and under every spreading tree and has committed adultery there.

Jer 3:8 I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries. Yet I saw that her unfaithful sister Judah had no fear; she also went out and committed adultery.

Jer 3:9 Because Israel's immorality mattered so little to her, she defiled the land and committed adultery with stone and wood.

Jer 5:7 "Why should I forgive you? Your children have forsaken me and sworn by gods that are not gods. I supplied all their needs, yet they committed adultery and thronged to the houses of prostitutes.

Jer 7:9 "Will you steal and murder, commit adultery and perjury, burn incense to Baal and follow other gods you have not known,

Living before God in a

Malachi 2

14 You ask, "Why?" It is because the LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.

15 Has not the LORD made them one? In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth.

16 "I hate divorce," says the LORD God of Israel, "and I hate a man's covering himself with violence as well as with his garment," says the LORD Almighty. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith.



Jesus springs the trap (v 7-9)

Pharisees: Moses or your teaching?

Jesus: You did not understand Moses

- 1. Intent of the Creator*
- 2. Moses permission due to sin*
- 3. MY teaching*
 - 1. The law*
 - 2. Its application*



Jesus springs the trap (v 7-9)

MY teaching

1. The law

2. Its application

1. Divorce is adultery

2. Unless

1. The naked thing (OT)

2. Porneia

Fornication

illicit sexual intercourse

AV-fornication 26; 26

NIV marital unfaithfulness



Jesus: You did not understand Moses

1. Intent of the Creator

2. Moses permission due to sin

3. MY teaching

The law

Its application


4. YOU

*are trapped in YOUR adultery of
worshipping other than ME, GOD who is
in your midst*

10 When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this.

11 He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her.

12 And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."

Matt 5	Matt 19	Mark 10	Luke 16
	3 ¶ Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?"	2 Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"	<div data-bbox="1509 169 2007 440" data-label="Section-Header"> <h1 style="text-align: center;">Jesus' teaching for His people</h1> </div>
	4 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,'	6 "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.'	
	5 and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'?	7 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife,	
	6 So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."	8 and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."	
31 "It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.'	7 "Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?"	3 "What did Moses command you?" he replied.	
	8 Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning.	4 They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."	
		5 "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied.	
		10 When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this.	
32 But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery.	9 I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery."	11 He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. 12 And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."	18 "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery, and the man who marries a divorced woman commits adultery."

Apostolic application



1 Corinthians 7	
<p>10 ¶ To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband.</p>	<p>14 For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.</p>
<p>11 But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.</p>	<p>15 But if the unbeliever leaves, let him do so. A believing man or woman is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace.</p>
<p>12 To the rest I say this (I, not the Lord): If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her.</p>	<p>16 How do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or, how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?</p>
<p>13 And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him.</p>	

Correlation...

Apostolic application (1 Corinthians 7)

To the married (Christians)

*Wife must not separate,
if does, not remarry,
be reconciled*

Husband not divorce

To the rest (mixed)

*Remain, but **if the unbeliever
leaves**, not bound*

Application and encouragement

- 1. What entraps us that keeps us from seeing Jesus?*
- 2. What prevents us from seeing others from God's eyes of grace, love & bride relationship with Him?*
- 3. Protect with commitment and diligence our vows made to God and marriage!*

Application and encouragement

4. God's grace, love and forgiveness extends to all

5. God is the judge of all, not us

6. We are to reflect the Lord in our attitudes, love, and acceptance of His work in the lives of all people

7. We are to seek the highest good in everyone's journey before the Lord