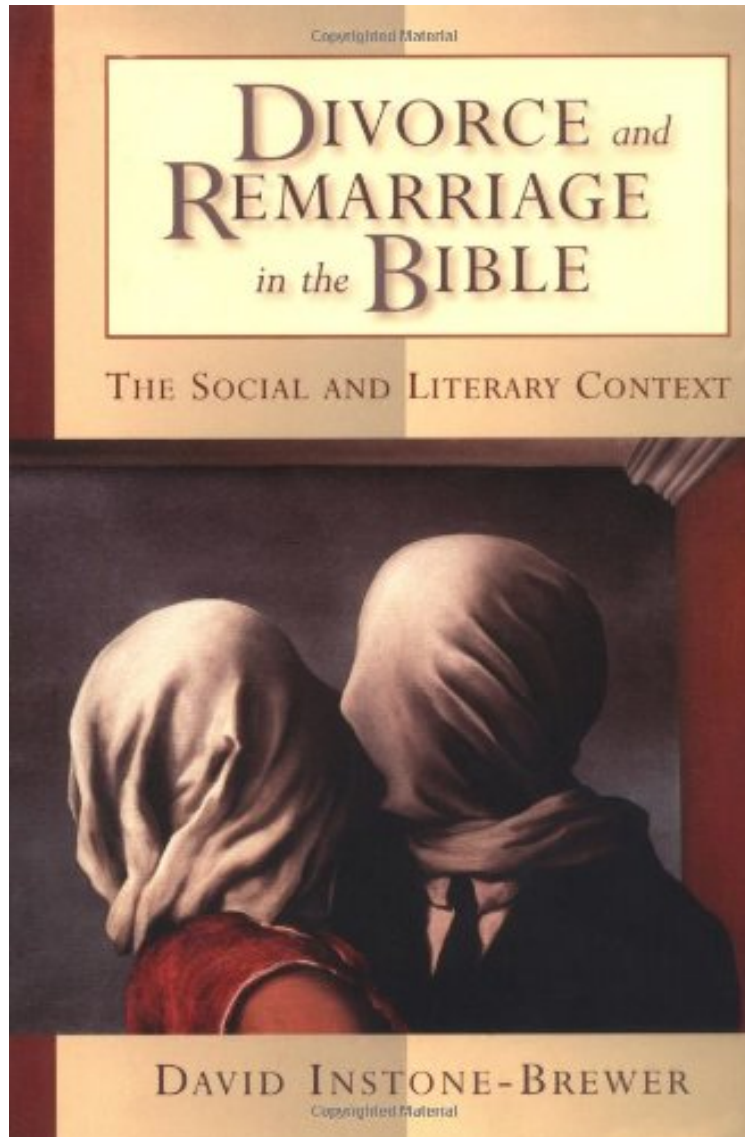


(Ebook pdf) Divorce and Remarriage in the Bible: The Social and Literary Context

Divorce and Remarriage in the Bible: The Social and Literary Context

David Instone-Brewer

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David Instone-Brewer : Divorce and Remarriage in the Bible: The Social and Literary Context before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Divorce and Remarriage in the Bible: The Social and Literary Context:

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lot of research. The Divorce and Remarriage issue is a difficult one, and is made all the more difficult by some Scriptures that are easy to misunderstand if the context is not explained. The author looks at both the Old and New Testament, as well as other ancient literature and the surrounding culture. I would recommend this book to others, as I concluded that the author did his best to be accurate. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent (but a bit heavy for a layman). By David LUCAS It's a bit heavy for a layman, like myself (thus 4 stars), but nevertheless very informative giving an excellent background of the context in which Biblical teaching on Divorce and Remarriage was given as well as analysing the Scriptures themselves. I benefitted from reading it and appreciate the incredible depth of research that has been done to produce it, it gave great credibility to his other book; 'Divorce and Remarriage in the church', which I found easier to read - as a layman, as you appreciate the foundational research that went into it. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great book, specially for leaders. By Frank Carlsen I find this book very helpful with it's many sources from ancient documents, who really help any to understand the view of the first century people and the setting in the time of Jesus. Why this book not get five star from me is simply because he use some Greek and Hebrew word (written in their letters) with no interpretation. You may be an scholar to get it right there when you read the book. But don't worry, it's not many of them and you will after some reading understand it. This book is a great tool for leaders and should be read and study to help for the children of God. Not everything in the bible is straight forward, some cultural context is needed too.

To many, the New Testament's teaching on divorce and remarriage seems to be both impractical and unfair. The "plain" meaning of the texts allows for divorce only in cases of adultery or desertion, and it does not permit remarriage until the death of one's former spouse. But are these proscriptions the final word for Christians today? Are we correctly reading the scriptures that address these issues? By looking closely at the biblical texts on divorce and remarriage in light of the first-century Jewish and Greco-Roman world, this book shows that the original audience of the New Testament heard these teachings differently. Through a careful exploration of the background literature of the Old Testament, the ancient Near East, and especially ancient Judaism, David Instone-Brewer constructs a biblical view of divorce and remarriage that is wider in scope than present-day readings. Among the important findings of the book are that both Jesus and Paul condemned divorce without valid grounds and discouraged divorce even for valid grounds; that both Jesus and Paul affirmed the Old Testament grounds for divorce; that the Old Testament allowed divorce for adultery and for neglect or abuse; and that both Jesus and Paul condemned remarriage after an invalid divorce but not after a valid divorce. Instone-Brewer shows that these principles are not only different from the traditional church interpretation of the New Testament but also directly relevant to modern relationships. Enhanced with pastoral advice on how to apply the biblical teaching in today's context, this volume will be a valuable resource for anyone seeking serious answers about married life.

From the Back Cover To many, the New Testaments teaching on divorce and remarriage seems to be both impractical and unfair. The plain meaning of the texts allows for divorce only in cases of adultery or desertion, and it does not permit remarriage until the death of ones former spouse. But are these proscriptions the final word for Christians today? Are we correctly reading the scriptures that address these issues? By looking closely at the biblical texts on divorce and remarriage in light of the first-century Jewish and Greco-Roman world, this book shows that the original audience of the New Testament heard these teachings differently. Through a careful exploration of the background literature of the Old Testament, the ancient Near East, and especially ancient Judaism, David Instone-Brewer constructs a biblical view of divorce and remarriage that is wider in scope than present-day readings. Among the important findings of the book are that both Jesus and Paul condemned divorce without valid grounds and discouraged divorce even for valid grounds; that both Jesus and Paul affirmed the Old Testament grounds for divorce; that the Old Testament allowed divorce for adultery and for neglect or abuse; and that both Jesus and Paul condemned remarriage after an invalid divorce but not after a valid divorce. Instone-Brewer shows that these principles are not only different from the traditional church interpretation of the New Testament but also directly relevant to modern relationships. Enhanced with pastoral advice on how to apply the biblical teaching in todays context, this volume will be a valuable resource for anyone seeking serious answers about married life. About the Author David Instone-Brewer is senior research fellow in Rabbinics and the New Testament at Tyndale House, Cambridge, and a member of the Divinity Faculty at the University of Cambridge and the British Association of Jewish Studies. His other books include Divorce and Remarriage in the Bible: The Social and Literary Context (Eerdmans).