

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE CHURCH (IBC) LINZ

Flötzerweg 156 (Neue Heimat) 4030 Linz

...then you shall know the truth and the truth will set you free. Jn.8:32

SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE

29:11:15

Theme: CHRIST, S TEACHINGS ON MONOGAMY

Memory Verse: *Matthew 19:4 “And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,”*

Texts: Mathew 19:4-6; Malachi 2:14-16

With regard to Jacob’s marriage, the uniform teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ in the scripture is monogamy (one man, one wife). The Lord Jesus Christ applied the law of first mention when He was questioned concerning marriage “*And he answered and said unto them, have ye not read, that he who made them at the beginning made them male and female,*” Scripture frowns at separation and prohibited divorce as seen in our texts.

God in His providence blessed Jacob with 12 sons. And these 12 sons were later to form the 12 tribes of Israel. The degree of strife and conflict in Jacob’s household is reflected in the meaning of the names given to the sons. Due to Laban, s continued insincerity in not keeping to promises; he changed Jacob’s wages ten times. This must have caused great sorrow and distress to the patriarch as he lamented later: “Thus I was; in the day the drought consumed me and the frost by night; and my sleep departed from mine eyes.”(Genesis 31.40). Jacob initially did want to be polygamist but he pushed into it by deceit.

The lesson for believers here is very clear: anybody can change any day. This is why we must continue to put our trust at all times, not in mortal man, but in the unchanging God. Secondly, we should at all times be on the watch to ensure that brotherly love continues no matter the situation and circumstance. Jacob’s sojourn in the house of Laban however turned out to be a blessing for which Jacob expressed deep gratitude to God in his prayer later (Genesis 32:9, 10). Thirdly, believers should obey wholeheartedly the clear teachings of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ on monogamy, as we have seen what happened to Jacob.