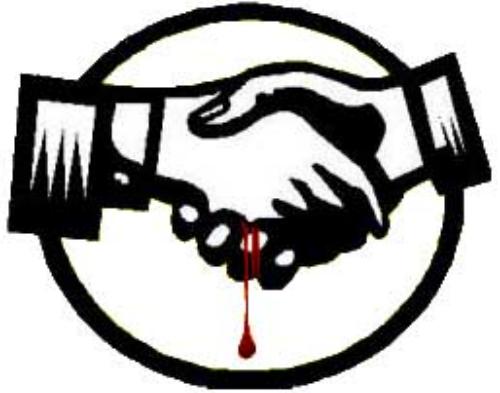


"Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." Hebrews 13:4 KJV

Adultery is covenant breaking. Sometimes, in ancient times sealed by killing of an animal, split into two halves, and the covenanters standing between swearing. (see Gen. 15) There was also this: "Now this was the manner in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbour: and this was a testimony in Israel."

More recently, clasped bleeding hands symbolize covenant. Marriage vows sealed with breaking a glass from which both have drunk, symbolize a vow which, once broken, can never be renewed. Biblical marriage pictures the union of Christ with His Church, all believers who have put their faith in God, and let me emphasize; marriage is ONLY one man and one woman! All else is perversion! We don't vow to our spouse to love, honour, and cherish til death, we vow to God! If I break my vow, yes, I hurt my spouse, but it is God to whom I am accountable! (If I may interject; if you do not love God more than your spouse, your marriage will fail!!) No matter how impulsively one may enter the marriage vow, God will hold them both accountable "til death!" Christ told the Pharisees, "*Have ye not read, that He which made them at the beginning made them male and female: And said: 'For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?' What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.*' They say unto him, '*Why did Moses...give a writing of divorce?*' [Jesus] saith unto them, '*Because of the hardness of your hearts...but from the beginning it was not so.*' Believers are joined as one to Christ when they join Him by faith for forgiveness of sin and the salvation of their soul. Christ prayed before His crucifixion. "*Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.*" Adultery, spiritual or temporal, is amputation. It cripples and handicaps with never a hope of healing! Man's only hope of restoration is to come to God for the healing only He can give. Crippled souls can never be whole without a miracle of God, but "*if any man be in Christ, he is a NEW CREATURE!*" A new creature is not a different animal; a new creature is ants becoming angels! "*But ye are not in the flesh...IF SO BE that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His.*" Jesus said, "*My sheep HEAR MY VOICE...and they follow me.*" If you do not HEAR (obey) God's Word, you are not following Christ, for He IS the "*Word made flesh!*"



The solemn vow, Salvation's trust,
Is sure beyond return to dust,
It's keeping pow'r is God's above,
It rests securely in His Love! ~CGP

The Law, the "*Old Covenant*," rested on man's ability. Faith, the "*New Covenant*," rests only on Christ, alone! He lived a sinless human life, fulfilling the old, and establishing the new. Men are under the penalty of eternal death under the old until they enter the "*New Covenant*," through faith in Christ! "*Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? Nay: but by the Law of Faith.*"

"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His Glory with exceeding Joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen." Jude 1:24-25 KJV