

# Giving You a Fresh Start After Divorce

## He Delights in You!

***“Fear not, for you shall not be ashamed; neither be confounded and depressed, for you shall not be put to shame. For you shall forget the shame of your youth, and you shall not [seriously] remember the reproach of your widowhood anymore.” (Isaiah 54:4 The Amplified Bible, AMP)***

In the prior two teachings, we talked about fear and shame. This teaching is about your widowhood. Now you might say, “Hey Regina I’m not a widow. I’m divorced and not happy about that. But I’m not a widow.” Well, my **beloved sister**, as we further breakdown the message in this verse, I believe what I’m about to uncover is very crucial to help bring healing to your heart!

Widowhood comes from the Hebrew word *'almânûwth* (491) which comes from the feminine word *'almân* (488). Here are the definitions:

*'almânûwth* (491) – fem. of 488; concr. a widow; abstr. widowhood

*'almân* (488) from 481 in the sense of bereavement; discarded (as a divorced person): forsaken. (The New Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible, James Strong, LL.D, S.T.D., Thomas Nelson Publishers 1990)

***Discarded as a divorced person or forsaken.***

That doesn’t sound like a woman who has lost their husband because of death.

Also, we get the word alimony from *'almânûwth*. A widow who lost their husband through death doesn’t receive alimony. A woman whose husband passes away definitely goes through a sense of bereavement. But she has not been discarded.

A woman who has been abandoned by her husband has been in a sense discarded -- especially if the divorce is not something she had wanted.

Do you know any widow who is “ashamed” of her widowhood? I don’t believe I do. A widow may feel sad and alone but not ashamed. But I do know many women who are ashamed of their divorce and sadly many times it’s the Church, their family, or their friends that contribute to that shame.

So, let’s look again at the phrase in this verse: *“and you shall not [seriously] remember the reproach of your widowhood anymore.”* What widow comes under fault or blame (reproach) from her loss? But again, many women who have suffered through divorce have experienced reproach from family, friends, and especially the legalistic Church.

What are the 7 things this Verse is speaking to you here? It is telling you:

1. Fear Not!
2. Do not be ashamed!
3. Do not be confounded!
4. Do not be depressed!
5. You will not be put to shame! (*Only if you receive it*)
6. You will forget the shame of your youth! (*Only if you let it go and give it to the great Healer*) *And if you do that ....*
7. You will not remember the reproach of your widowhood anymore!

As you read these last three points, can you celebrate at least one of them during this difficult time? Ask God to help you rejoice even though you were abandoned, betrayed, deserted, or confounded by your husband, because you do not have to walk in fear or take on shame. Ask the Lord to help you, my sister, so you can walk in freedom! After all, you have been set free by the one *“who knit you together in your mother’s womb”* (Psalm 139:13).

You might ask, *“Regina how can you ask me to celebrate? This is such a painful time.”* I understand. But continuing to focus on the pain, trauma and maybe even abuse that you’ve gone through or could still be going through is not going to bring you to victory or a sense of peace. But perhaps the next verse will help shed some light on the truth and help you to celebrate and that’s verse 5.

***For your Maker is your Husband – the Lord of hosts is His name – and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; the God of the whole earth He is called. (Isaiah 54:5 The Amplified Bible, AMP)***

### **You Now Have a New Husband!**

Well actually this “new” Husband has been with you all along? Perhaps you just didn’t know it. This husband is the Lord – the Holy One of Israel. If you were like me growing up hungering for love and attention, you perhaps searched to find it in a human being ... mainly a man. There is nothing wrong with having a husband that you adore and love to pieces. But what I have

learned in my journey is that if the Lord is not first and foremost in my life, it will be hard to have healthy relationships – be it a husband or even a friend.

I didn't consciously realize what I was after in my relationship with my spouse. I didn't know that what I wanted was a **Redeemer**. I wanted someone to cherish me, take care of me, and heal the hurts and wounds in my life. I'm sure on some level this longing was felt by my ex-husband unconsciously and he couldn't give me what I so desired and needed. Some issues in his past contributed to him being an emotionally unavailable partner. Now that was a recipe for disaster! But in truth, it wasn't his job to "make me better" nor was it mine to make him better.

It wasn't until the marriage was over and I discovered these Scriptures from Isaiah 54, that I began to receive revelation of what the Lord desires from me and healing began.

Our **Maker** is our **Husband**. He needs to be first and foremost in our lives. We can only receive full sustenance of life from Him. Sure, our spouses or friends can fill emotional needs and give us things we need in life. But if they don't or if they can't, then we need to release them and turn to our **Maker**. He has more than enough to give us what we need. He is the **Lord of Hosts** which is a title of power. The Holy One of Israel is our **Redeemer**!

What is the definition of **Redeemer**? According to the 1828 Webster Dictionary, **Redeemer** is defined as "One who redeems or ransoms."

Well from what Christ did for us on the Cross He has been made our Redeemer or the One who ransoms us. If we receive Him, then we know we are washed from our sins, we are healed from our wounds, illnesses and dis-eases. He has redeemed our life from the darkness that we may have walked in and brought us to His light, His truth, His hope, His love and His abundance.

*"The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. **I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)**" (John 10:10 The Amplified Bible, AMP)*

My sister, the Lord has redeemed and ransomed you. He died and rose again so you could live an abundant life! Take this treasure to heart and release your ex-husband if that is an issue with you! God sent His Son because He wants you to have an abundant life ... even if you experienced tragedy.

### ***Kisses from your King***

*"For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs." Zephaniah 3:17 New Living Translation, NLT*

Take a minute and let those words seep into your heart.



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This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. At the top, there are faint, stylized clouds in shades of light blue. The rest of the page is filled with evenly spaced horizontal black lines, typical of notebook paper. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.