



## Dead Man Walking

I recently visited a museum in Angola Prison and viewed the Electric Chair that sent many convicted criminals to their death. Once the death sentence had been decreed for their lives they continued to live but with the knowledge that a horrible death was days and hours away with no way out. When ever they would travel anywhere in the prison everyone would say aloud "dead man walking". One of the reasons is that a person in this state of mind knowing that he is finished and has nothing to lose was totally unpredictable and could in desperation do anything, even take his own life and others around him.

Divorce is a lot like this. The results of a broken marriage puts many people in this same state of mind. Most people think there is freedom and a better life ahead outside their troubled marriage. But how wrong they are! There is a death that happens when a marriage goes bad inside the home. But there is another death ahead for those that separate and divorce. As a divorced person you are still living but you have suffered the loss of a part of you; your spouse, your children, your home life and many of your friends. Often you do not sleep at night and have a constant forboding feeling that the whole world is crashing down and you don't have nothing to hold onto. Your relationships change with extended family members and everything you do feels so different and it seems that you are always alone! You cry, you hurt, you fear and you despair. There is nothing good about divorce and there are no winners, only losers. The next step leads you into the high pressure world of attorneys, legal fees, judges, property settlement and custody disputes over the destiny and shattered future of your precious children. For any loving parent seeing your children in the kind of pain resulting in divorce is a sorrow that goes deep in your soul. Most people going through this painful process are just walking out their everyday lives but inside are dying a slow death mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

Just as a dead man will do anything to escape his death sentence, many separated and divorced people will start new relationships, become compulsive drinkers and gamblers, anything to take their minds off the pain.

This is not an extreme case but the normal nightmarish life that follows divorced. Usually divorcees will remarry someone with children and now the challenge of maintaining a blended family home where step children are often hostile toward the new spouse and every one has their hurts and excess baggage from the last marriage. While first time marriages have a statistically 50/50 chance of survival, second marriages have less than a 70 percent chance of failure.

Why are we saying all this? Because the devil's biggest lie is that you will be happier if you get out of your troubled marriage. There is someone out there for you who really cares. This is a lie! The truth is Satan desires to kill steal and destroy your marriage

because he desires to destroy you, your spouse, your children and you future!  
Unfortunately he is very good at it.

God's very best for you is the present marriage that you are in. If you have been remarried well the past is the past.