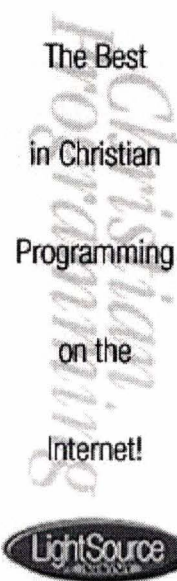


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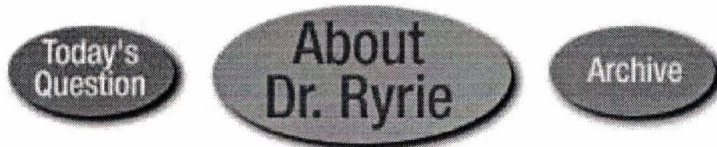


Friday, December 26, 1997

Subject: Can God use a divorced man as a minister?

Dear Dr. Ryrie: I am a preacher, and my wife has left me because she says we are growing in different directions and she does not want to be a minister's wife. I have done all in my power to get her to come home. It has been nine months now, and she says that she is getting a divorce as soon as she can. Can God still use me as a minister? --Rev. Strick

Dear Rev. Strick: I am truly sorry you are having to go through this experience. Divorce itself is something God hates, and the ramifications of it go on and on and in ways your wife or you cannot imagine. However, God knows your heart, and He will not be finished with you if the divorce goes through. If your ministry is being a pastor, then realistically, you will have to face the fact that some churches will not want you, but in other cases your marital status will not be an obstacle. Be encouraged, too, that there are avenues of ministry other than the pastorate to which the Lord might lead you.



Got a Question? -- Ask it

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