

Road to Emmaus

Biblical View of Sex and Sexual Sin

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Biblical View of Sex

I. Sex Is An Important Topic.

- a. There is much confusion over sexuality.
 - i. Confusion about sexual identity.
 - ii. Confusion about sexual freedom.
- b. A secular worldview continues to influence Christians.
 - i. Ungodliness is pervasive.
 - ii. Self is at the center.

But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money...lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, (2 Tim 3:1-4).
- c. We are obligated to provide a biblical worldview to the next generation.
 - i. Don't just to blame schools, social media or legislation.
 - ii. Present God's purpose for sex in the context of the marriage.

"It is important to remember not only that the Bible forbids sex outside the marriage, but that it commends sex within the marriage. " (Christopher Ash)

II. Sexual Intimacy is for God's Glory.

- a. God created humans for his glory (Isa. 43:7; 1 Cor. 10:31).
- b. Our sexual intimacy is for his glory (1 Cor. 6:13, 19-20).

"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. (1 Cor. 6:13)

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. (1 Cor. 6:19-20)

“Our Christian task is to remember that every sexual union is profound. It always points to a deeper union that we have with Christ by faith. Sex mirrors the glory of God in the gospel. It exists because it expresses God’s oneness with His people, His fidelity to us, His ownership of us, His self-sacrifice, and the pleasure we can take in this relationship.” (Ed Welch)

III. Sexual Intimacy in Marriage Unites Couples Together.

- a. Couples enter into a covenant relationship (Gen. 2:22-25; Matt. 19:6).
Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh (Gen. 2:24).

- b. Couples enter a procreative relationship (Gen. 1:28).

And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” (Gen. 1:28).

God designed a relationship in which a man and a woman would be joined in body and soul. And through this union, a couple fulfills the creation command through sexual relations. (Jonathan D. Holmes)

IV. Sexual Intimacy in Marriage is a Monogamous Relationship.

- a. A relationship between one man and one woman (Gen. 2:24).
- b. Sexuality outside of marriage is forbidden (1 Thess. 4:1-5)
For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; (1 Thess. 4:3-5)

- c. Sexuality within marriage is celebrated (Pr. 5:15-23).
 - i. God encourages sexual pleasure in your spouse (5:15-17).

Drink water from your own cistern, flowing water from your own well. Should your springs be scattered abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let them be for yourself alone, and not for strangers with you.

- ii. Marital sex is exhilarating (5:18-19).

Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, a lovely deer, a graceful doe. Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight; be intoxicated always in her love.

- iii. Marital sex is a safeguard against immorality (5:20-23).

Why should you be intoxicated, my son, with a forbidden woman and embrace the bosom of an adulteress? For a man's ways are before the eyes of the LORD, and he ponders all his paths. The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him, and he is held fast in the cords of his sin. He dies for lack of discipline, and because of his great folly he is led astray.

V. Sexual Intimacy is to be Regular and Other- Oriented. (I Cor. 7:1-5; Phil. 2:3; Matt. 22:36-40)

The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control (1 Cor. 7:3-5).

- a. Sexual intimacy is to be regular.

"A satisfying sex life is not created by frequency. A satisfying sex life creates frequency." (Brad Hambrick)

- b. Sexual intimacy is to be other-oriented.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves (Phil. 2:3).

VI. Areas of struggle and solutions

- a. Areas of struggle (Holmes)

- i. Biological factors; Aging; Historical factors.
- ii. Use of pornography; Un-biblical view of sex.

- b. Solutions

- i. Make time for sexual intimacy; Talk to your spouse.
- ii. Be quick to forgive; Cultivate nonsexual, affectionate touch.

Dealing with Sexual Sin

VII. The Scope of Sexual Sin

- a. We live in a sexualized society that is inundated with sexual messages.
- b. Sexual sin destroys many lives; the statistics are staggering (Jdg. 21:25).
- c. We will minister to people who deal with a variety of sexual sins.

VIII. The Downward Steps Into Sexual Sin (Nicholas Ellen)

- a. A change of mind set – we forget about selves, God, and temptations.
 - i. We forget that we are a temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:11; 19-20).
 - ii. We falsely think that God doesn't see our sin (Ps. 10:11).
 - iii. We value the world and its offerings more than God (1 Jn. 2:15-17).

- b. A change of motivation - our motivation turns to please ourselves rather than to please God (2 Tim. 3:4; Jas. 3:16).

For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice (Jas. 3:16).

- c. A change in meditation – our thoughts and focus become consumed with lust and sexual desires (Jas. 1:13-14).

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire (Jas. 1:13-14).

- d. A change in means – we re-direct our time, \$, energy into those sinful activities (Jer. 2:12-13).

Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked, be utterly desolate, declares the LORD, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water. (Jer. 2:12-13).

- e. A change in master – we walk according to the flesh instead of H.S., reaping what is sown and costing us our lives (Gal. 6:7-8; Pr. 7:21-23)

With much seductive speech she persuades him; with her smooth talk she compels him. All at once he follows her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a stag is caught fast till an arrow pierces its liver; as a bird rushes into a snare; he does not know that it will cost him his life. (Pr. 7:21-23)

IX. The Upward Journey Out of Sexual Sin

- a. Acknowledge sin before God and others – without excuses in biblical terms.
 - i. Confess your sin to God and seek forgiveness (Pr. 28:13; 1 Jn. 1:9; 2:1-2).
 - ii. Confess your sin to those who are affected by it (Jas. 5:16)
 - iii. Repent and keep repenting- thinking & behavior (Eph. 4:22-24; Col. 3).
- b. Commit to change – so your heart and behavior are in line with Scripture.
 - i. Must have the right motives for change (2 Cor. 7:8-11; 2 Cor. 5:9; 1 Pet. 1:15-17).
 - ii. Must take “radical” steps (Matt. 5:29-30; Heb. 12:1; 2 Tim. 2:22).
 - iii. Establish accountability relationships (Gal. 6:1-2; Pr. 27:17; Heb. 3:12, 13).
- c. Pursue Jesus Christ – for real victory we must love God more than our sin (Rom. 13:13-14).
 - i. Abiding in Christ (Jn. 15:1-11).
 - ii. Practical ways to abide in Christ through his word
- d. Participate in worship, fellowship and service (Heb. 3:12, 13; 10:24, 25).

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near (Heb. 10:24-25).

- X. Conclusion:** The gospel of Jesus Christ provides the believer with everything he needs to live a life of holiness and hope in overcoming sexual sin.

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it (1 Thess. 5:23-24).

Resources:

John Freeman, *Hide or Seek*, (New Growth Press, 2014), 8-9.

Denny Burk, *What is the Meaning of Sex?* (Crossway, 2013), 89-100.

John D. Street, Gen. Editor, *Men Counseling Men*, (Harvest House, 2013), 299-303.

Heath Lambert, *Finally Free*, (Zondervan, 2013), 60-67

David Helm, *One to One Bible Reading*, (Matthias Media, 2011), 43-45.

Wayne A. Mack, *Strengthening Your Marriage*, (P & R Publishing, 1999), 120.

John Henderson, *Catching Foxes*, (ABC Resources, 2011), 167.

Jonathan D. Holmes, *Counsel for Couples*, (Zondervan, 2019), 233-250.