

“The Sanctity of Marriage”

Exodus 20:14

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I. Introduction

A. The 1631 KJV or the “Wicked Bible”

1. At no other point is contemporary morality in more obvious conflict with God’s law than in the standard found in the seventh commandment
2. It is no secret that since the sexual revolution of the 1960’s, and even before, we as a nation have rejected God and His standards for marriage and sexuality
3. We are paying a terrible price for it
 - a) Nothing will destroy a life, marriage, family, or nation more quickly and completely than sexual immorality
4. The seventh commandment displays God’s concern for the sanctity of marriage
5. Marriage and sexual intimacy are God’s gifts to humanity
 - a) (Genesis 2)
 - b) It is a gift for the husband and wife
6. Sexual intimacy is only for the covenant of marriage
 - a) (Hebrews 13:4)
 - b) (1 Corinthians 7:1-5)
7. If we follow God’s design for marriage, it will bring blessings
 - a) Remember God’s laws are for our good and for His glory

II. What is this Law Prohibiting?

A. Adultery

1. It is any sort of sex outside of the marriage relationship
2. It is committed by a husband or wife
3. The verb “commit adultery” is used for either men or women
 - a) (Hebrews 13:4)
4. It is a great sin. Why?
 - a) It is a sin against God and His command
 - 1) (Psalm 51)
 - b) It is a sin against your neighbor
 - 1) Not loving
 - c) It is a sin against your body
 - 1) (1 Corinthians 6:18)
 - d) It is a sin that brings great pain
 - 1) Illustration- Divorce
 - 2) (Matthew 19)
5. This commandment has a far wider application than to just infidelity in marriage.

B. Fornication

1. Premarital sex
2. (1 Thessalonians 4:3)
3. Greek *porneia*
 - a) Any sex outside of marriage

C. Homosexuality

1. Old Testament
 - a) (Leviticus 18:22)
 - b) (Leviticus 20:13)
2. New Testament
 - a) (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
 - b) (Romans 1:26-27)
 - c) (Jude 1:7)
 - d) (1 Timothy 1:10)
3. Not made that way by God
 - a) “Don’t be conformed...” (Romans 12)

D. Pornography

1. Fornication
2. We get the word “pornographic” from the Greek “porneia”
3. Voyeurism
 - a) Watching others
 - b) TV or movies

E. Lustful thoughts

1. (Matthew 5:27-28)

III. What are the Steps that can Lead to Adultery?

A. Spiritual apathy

1. Illustration- David’s adultery with Bathsheba
2. (2 Samuel 11-12)
3. David tarried still at Jerusalem

B. Undisciplined vision

1. David saw a woman washing herself, and the woman was very beautiful to look upon

C. Undisciplined thoughts

1. He inquired after the woman

D. He yielded

1. David lay with her
2. (James 1:13-15)

E. The consequences of David’s adultery

1. The baby died
2. Son raped daughter
3. Son murdered brother
4. Son rebelled against his father
5. Sword in his family

IV. How Can We Resist the Temptation to Commit Adultery?

A. Recognize your potential for moral failure

1. (1 Corinthians 10:12)

B. Realize God has promised a way to escape temptation

1. (2 Corinthians 10:13)

C. Resolve to be pure

1. Illustration- Daniel Chapter 1
- D. Remove all bitterness
 1. (Hebrews 12:13)
- E. Restrain the flesh
 1. Illustration- David on the roof
 2. Jesus said, “if your right eye causes you to sin pluck it out”
- F. Resist the Devil
 1. (1 Peter 5:8)
- G. Renew your mind in God’s Word
 1. (Psalm 119:11)
 2. (Psalm 119:9)
 3. Illustration- Jesus when He was tempted
- H. Rely on the Holy Spirit and prayer
 1. Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you
 2. (Ephesians 5:18)
- I. Rejoice in the goodness of God
 1. (Ephesians 5:18)
- J. Run
 1. Illustration- Joseph and Potiphar’s wife
 - a) He refused
 - b) He would not violate his master’s trust
 - c) He saw it as a great wickedness and sin against God
 - d) He ran
 - 1) (2 Timothy 2:22)

V. What if you Have Fallen?

- A. Remember, God will forgive your sins
- B. Repent and turn back to God
- C. Receive His forgiveness
 1. (Psalm 51)
 2. (John 8)