

Sexual Ethics

A. Our human sexuality is a good gift from a loving God.

1. God created human sexuality

Genesis 1:27: So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

2. God proclaimed our human sexuality very good.

Genesis 1:31: God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

3. God commanded us to express our sexuality.

Genesis 1:28: God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it."

4. God's perfect creatures were not ashamed of their sexuality.

Genesis 3:25: The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

B. God tells us how to use our sexuality with his blessing.

1. God blesses the practice of sexual intimacy inside marriage.

Genesis 2:24: For this reason (that is, to get married) 1] a man will leave his father and mother 2] and be united to his wife, 3] and they will become one flesh.

Genesis 1:28: God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number.

Proverbs 18:22: He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the Lord.

2. God curses every use of sex outside of marriage.

Hebrews 13:4: Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

1 Corinthians 6:16: Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh."

1 Corinthians 6:9,10: The wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived:

Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders... will inherit the kingdom of God. (See **Leviticus 18**).

C. To use our sexuality in ways for which God did not create and bless it does great harm to God, ourselves, and others.

1. All sex outside marriage lacks God's command and blessing and will incur his curse. (fornication = any sexual contact outside of marriage, including premarital sex, prostitution, and unfaithfulness; adultery = sexual contact with any but your spouse; pederasty = sexual contact with a child).

1 Corinthians 6:9,10: Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders...will inherit the kingdom of God.

Romans 13:13: Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery.

2 Corinthians 12:21: I will be grieved over many who have sinned earlier and have not repented of the impurity, sexual sin and debauchery in which they have indulged.

Galatians 5:19: The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery...I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Ephesians 5:3: But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking.

2. Sexual contact with anyone or anything other than the opposite sex is doubly degrading and openly invites God's retribution (homosexuality is contact with the same sex; bestiality is sexual contact with animals).

Leviticus 18:22: Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable.

Leviticus 18:23: Do not have sexual relations with an animal and defile yourself with it.

Deuteronomy 27:21: Cursed is the man who has sexual relations with any animal.

Romans 1:24-27: Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another...because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men and received in themselves the

due penalty for their perversion.

D. Yet God does not want us to seek sexual purity out of fear of punishment. Jesus blood covers even the worst sexual sins. Our motive for sexual purity is thanksgiving for forgiveness and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our bodies as his temple.

Romans 13:13: Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

1 Corinthians 6:9,11: Sexually immoral, adulterers, male prostitutes, homosexual offenders... That is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20: Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

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