

Doctrine of Fornication

1. *Fornication* or *porneia* includes many forms of illicit sexual intercourse.
2. In Romans *porneia* is seen as sexual sins in general,
 - *Romans 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,*
3. In Corinthians *porneia* refers to sex with incest.
 - *1 Corinthians 5:1 It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.*
4. Also in Corinthians *porneia* refers to the sexual lewdness of mental and social behavior resulting from forced marital abstinence.
 - *1 Corinthians 7:5 Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.*
5. It is associated with uncleanness and lasciviousness.
 - *1 Corinthians 6:13 Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.*
6. In Galatians *porneia* is associated with the works of the flesh.
 - *Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,*
7. *Porneia* brings divine judgment.
 - *Revelation 2:21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.*
8. Because of the broader usage of the word *porneia*, a better translation of fornication in the gospels would be sexual impurity or sexual indecency. *Porneia* should not be limited to the idea of sexual intercourse outside of the bonds of marriage by two unmarried people.