

Doctrine of the Seriousness of Sexual Sins

1. It is the will of God that Christians abstain from sexual immorality in every expression and form.
 - *1 Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:*

2. The World was once destroyed with the exception of eight souls in large measure through sexual sins.
 - *Genesis 6:1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, 2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. 3 And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.*

3. God takes sexual sins seriously especially for the believer because the body is declared to be His dwelling place.
 - *1 Corinthians 6:18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. 19 What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

4. Christians are not immune to sexual sins as the life of David testifies. The inappropriate relationship of David with Bathsheba brought eternal shame and sorry as reflected in Psalm 51.
 - *Psalms 51:1 To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bath-she'-ba 51 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving-kindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.*

5. Once a person is addicted to sexual sins there are invisible chains that bind the soul to them. Only Christ can set the captives free.
 - *Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. 17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, 18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.*

6. Through His work at Calvary Jesus laid the foundation not only for salvation but for sanctification. However, the believer does have a responsibility in the process.
- *1 Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; 5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:*
7. The apostle Paul made it very plain that sexual sins such as fornication and adultery are damnable sins worthy of the most severe judgment in time and eternity.
- *Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness ... 21 of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*
 - *Ephesians 5:3 But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; 4 Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. 5 For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.*
 - *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.*
8. The sexual misconduct of the man in the church of Corinth led to him being placed under the sentence of death.
- *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. 2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. 3 For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed, 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.*
9. The covenant people of God are to keep themselves from sexual sins for such is the will of God.
- *1 Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; 5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:*

10. Apart from repentance God's judgment falls surely and severely upon those who engage in sexual misconduct and lead others into sexual sins.

- *Revelation 2:12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; 13 I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth. 14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. ...16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.*

11. Despite the divine prohibitions, despite the fearful judgments of God, despite the shame associated with conduct that violates the conscience and the moral law of God the covenant people of God struggle with sexual sins or abandon themselves to the passions that rage in the heart.

12. When Noah got drunk, his son Ham either took advantage of his situation and committed a homosexual act upon his person or mocked him in his drunken condition. The result was the Curse of Canaan.

- *Genesis 9:24 And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him. 25 And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.*

13. When Lot got drunk, his daughters lay with him in incest to produce children.

- *Genesis 19:36 36 Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father.*

14. Lot was willing to give his two virgin daughters to be raped by the men of Sodom rather than let the homosexuals in the community violate by rape his guests.

- *Genesis 19:8 Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.*

15. David lusted after Bathsheba and then lay with her to produce a child after which he had her husband Uriah killed to cover up his deed.

- *2 Samuel 11:2 And it came to pass in an evening-tide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. 3 And David sent and inquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bath-sheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite? 4 And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house. 5 And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with*

child. ...17 And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. 15 And he wrote in the letter, saying, Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die. 16 And it came to pass, when Joab observed the city, that he assigned Uriah unto a place where he knew that valiant men were. 17 And the men of the city went out, and fought with Joab: and there fell some of the people of the servants of David; and Uriah the Hittite died also.

16. The sexual appetite of Solomon was so great he needed 700 wives and 300 concubines to satisfy him.

- *1 Kings 11:3 And he [Solomon] had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. 4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.*

17. In the church of Corinth fornication was openly reported.

- *1 Corinthians 5:1 It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you.*

18. Many more illustrations could be cited concerning the sexual sins of professing saints but these are given to reflect that across the centuries inappropriate sensuality has plagued the covenant people of God.

19. When Esther was invited to sleep with the king for one night, when she was encouraged to do so by her uncle Mordecai, when Esther conceded to the proposition and prepared herself for a night of lost virginity albeit with a rich reward, she did not hesitate.

20. Only God can sort out the inner workings of the heart in this most difficult area. This much is certain from the story of Esther and the teaching of Paul. God is sovereign over sin and can make good come out of any form of evil.

- When Esther did become queen and her relationship with the king was at least made legal she was able to do much good for her people promoting Mordecai to ask “*who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?*” (Esther 4:14).
- The apostle Paul said, “*And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose*” (Romans 8:28).

21. In His sovereign will God can make good come out of evil.

- The taking of Bath-sheba to bed and then to wife led to the birth of Solomon.
- The loss of her virginity to the king led to a queen’s position for Esther.
- The murder of Christ led to the salvation of countless immortal souls.
- The sentence of death for the man in Corinth led to his repentance.

22. God knows how to make good come out of evil. Where sin abounds grace does much more abound. God is sovereign over sin.

- *Romans 5:20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:*