

READINGS OF SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:27-30 and 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

DOCTRINAL STANDARDS: Apostle's Creed and Canons II, 5 & rej. 4

SINGING: 265:1-3 – 428:2-4 – 140:1-4 – 87:1-3

A. Four opening observations:

- God calls us to *exhort one another daily* because sin is so deceitful!
(Heb. 3:13)
- God's intention in every commandment is our happiness!
- Transgressions of the 7th bring deepest wounding in human hearts!
- Silence around the 7th commandment serves Satan well!

GOD'S TEACHINGS ON SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUAL SIN (1)

I. Sexual sin is far more than the act of adultery II. Sexual sin isn't worth the price-tag II. Avoidance of sexual sin needs radical measures

I. SEXUAL SIN IS FAR MORE THAN THE ACT OF ADULTERY

A. Before considering *sexual sin* we need to consider *the gift of sexuality*

1. Sexual relationship between husband and wife is God's design and gift
 - a. compare Gen. 1:28; 2:24; Prov. 5:15-21; Hebrew 13:4
 - human sexuality is *like a tender flower* in garden of *marriage*

b. around us *we see trampling –soiling – abusing* of this gift of God

2. God specified boundaries in 7th and much Biblical commentary

B. What does the Lord and King define as sexual sin?

1. Adultery is *sexual contact with other than spouse* (Matt. 5:27)
2. Jesus' definition of *spiritual transgression* of 'adultery' (vs. 28)
 - a. note the difference between *seeing* and *looking*
3. Other Scriptures adds other dimensions
 - a. Lev. 18 & 20:10-21
 - God forbids sexual acts with family– animals – same sex

- God forbids the terrible evil of any form of incest

b. 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Col 3:5

- pre-marital sexual relationship is ‘defrauding’
- pornography and sensual sexual novels is *fornication*

II. SEXUAL SINS AREN'T WORTH THE PRICE

A. Why does the Lord forbid these activities?

1. Because these sins dishonor God's beauty more than any other sins
2. Because the sinful pleasure *bring lifetime of consequences* (Prov 6:32-33)
3. Because these sins have such destructive results

B. Heed the most explicit warnings about these sins!

1. Sexual sin destroys the soul of life: Prov. 6:32-35
2. Sexual sin leads one downward: Prov. 7:22-23, 27
3. Sexual sin will experience ‘temporal’ avenging by the Lord: 1 Thess. 4:6
4. Sexual sins also destroy others involved: Prov. 6:32

C. All these leads to the Lord's command for radical measures (Matt. 5:29-30)

The price of purity is high but price of impurity is dirt cheap.

What lust is so sweet or profitable that is worth suffering in hell for?

Love can wait to give; lust can't wait to get.