

Theology Simply Explained — WSC70 “Imaging and Enjoying God in Marriage and Pleasure”

Pastor walks his children through Westminster Shorter Catechism question 70—especially explaining and applying the progression from the guarding of the image of God in the sixth commandment to the imaging and enjoying of God in marriage in the seventh commandment.

WSC70: Which is the seventh commandment? *The seventh commandment is, Thou shalt not commit adultery.*

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Shorter catechism this week, which is the seventh commandment Answer is the seventh commandment is thou shalt not commit adultery. The seventh, commandment. Deals with the Purpose in nature of marriage. And the purpose of our bodies and our bodies exist.

Not to please ourselves but to please the lord and to image the lord, The in particularly one of the most important things that our bodies exist for is, For marriage. Because when god gives, Um, makes the woman out of the body of the man and then brings her to them in.

He first makes her from his flesh and then declares the two of them to be one flesh together. And that is also. Um, An indication of how the covenant of marriage is sealed. And so god who not only in genesis 2, does all that. We have just now referred to but in genesis 1, He makes man and his image.

Um, But, Before he finishes that thought he says, Um, you create a minute male and female. To be in his image. And so there's a part of imaging god. Um, For which we actually need marriage. Now, part of this is because god is Uh, triune And he has, Uh, relationship within himself.

We are not triune. We are not even by you, and you do not become. Um, two persons with one nature. And yet there's something in the shared life of the husband and wife and the identification with one another. Um, the two being one flesh. That wants a man is married.

He has never to think of himself as apart from his wife. He wants a woman is married. She was never to think of herself as Independent of Her husband. The two are one. Just, In a similar way, in all of god's interactions with others. He always All three persons of the trinity.

Are acting. So in all of the opera ad extra of god all of the operations outside of god that take place outside of God. All the actions take place outside of god. Uh, he acts as triune the father, never acts without the son of the spirit. The sun never acted without the spirit.

And the father spirit never asks, without the problem of the sun. And so forth. And so there's something very, very significant. About the one fleshness of marriage. And that's one of the great purposes for our body. Our body exists for the imaging of god. Um, Therefore, It is actually an extension of the sixth commandment when the lord tells us, thou shalt not commit adultery.

Because what happens when you commit adultery Uh, when you Uh, do that which attacks, or breaks or weakens? Uh, the bond between husband and wife, whether it's done. Ahead of time. And what is more specifically called fornication? Uh, having thoughts desires or actions that belong? To the marriage relationship.

Without. A marriage, covenant. Or once you are in a marriage covenant, to have those with toward, or with someone who is outside of Uh, your marriage, covenant, both of those things attack. This one flesh person. That is made if we can speak of it that way and Uh we speak of that.

Wave it that way following bible, both of those attack, the one flesh person that is formed by marriage and so it is a sort of murder. Uh fornication and adultery is a sort of murder. It is a murder of marriage. And it is a complete mistaking. Of the purpose of pleasure.

And the purpose of our bodies. The scope of the seventh commandment. Also has a lot to say about How we desire things? How we find pleasure and things.

Aiming, all of these things at the imaging of god, the enjoying of god. Uh, the glorifying. Of god. And of course, marriage itself. Uh, being most pleasant. And most central. To the enjoyment of god and the glorifying of god. Is the the primary place? In which those things. Are expressed and tested.

And so, that's Uh, in large parts, why the seventh commandment is where it is coming on the heels of the sixth. And then we'll move to the eighth. We'll find. The purpose of property. Not just the purpose of pleasure of the purpose of our physical bodies.