

## Did God Really Say? God & Sex: Two Lies and One Truth 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

### INTRODUCTION

Well...we return to our study under the banner “Did God Really Say?” Last time, we mentioned that what is at play around us is a battle over authority. Who or what has the last or ultimate say in what you believe and how you behave? **What’s at stake is a battle of worldviews.**

What is a worldview? **As the word itself suggests, a worldview is an overall view of the world. A worldview is the sum total of our beliefs about the world.**

A person’s worldview reflects how he or she would answer all the “big questions” of human existence: fundamental questions about who and what we are, where we came from, why we’re here, where (if anywhere) we’re headed, the meaning and purpose of life, the nature of the afterlife, and what counts as a good life here and now. **Worldviews shape and inform our experiences of the world around us.**

**As such, worldviews play a central and defining role in our lives. As followers of Christ, we must have a Christian or better word is a biblical (biblically informed) worldview, especially when considering the sexual revolution around us.**

But what if we encounter people who don’t share our worldview? What then? Do we give up? Not necessarily. Ask them to share theirs with you and see if it answers the Big Questions satisfactorily. Every worldview answers 4 main questions:

- Where did we come from? (Bible’s creation)
- What went wrong? (Bible’s fall – sin’s intro)
- How do we fix it? (Bible’s redemption & restoration)
- How now do we live?

Last week we considered the **foundation: Created in God’s Image: Ground Zero for Sexuality and Gender (Genesis 1-3)** Last week’s main point: God created humans in His image as male and female. When we redefine the God-given roles and identities, we deny the purposes for which we were created.

Here’s today’s main point: God \_\_\_\_\_ sex for the purposes of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ against temptation. These purposes are to be enjoyed within the covenant of \_\_\_\_\_ and they point to the \_\_\_\_\_ purpose of \_\_\_\_\_ God with our \_\_\_\_\_.

For this morning, turn with me in your Bibles to **1 Corinthians 6:12-20.**

*Let’s dig in...*

### **I. \_\_\_\_\_ out of control is \_\_\_\_\_ (6:12)**

In most of your Bibles you will see that the words, “*all things are lawful for me*” is translated as a quotation. It is believed by most scholars that Paul was quoting what the Corinthians were saying. They may have been quoting Paul himself.

Paul certainly preached that we have freedom in Christ. In **Galatians 5** Paul tells us that we are not under the law but under grace. Paul underscored the fact that Christ died for every sin that we have committed. Consequently, there is a true freedom in Christ.

**With freedom, however, comes responsibility.** We must continually guard that freedom, or we will lose it. The people of Corinth were embracing the idea of freedom but were missing the part about responsibility. They were using the idea of freedom as an excuse for their own sinfulness. In today language, people would say, “*It is my body, and I can do what I want with it.*”

*Paul responded to this idea with two “qualifiers” to the exercise of our freedom.*

**A. Though we are free, not everything is**

\_\_\_\_\_.

**B. Though we are free, we must \_\_\_\_\_ to**

**be \_\_\_\_\_ against being enslaved \_\_\_\_\_.**

**II. It is never \_\_\_\_\_ (6:13)**

**III. We \_\_\_\_\_ our lives with \_\_\_\_\_ at  
our \_\_\_\_\_ (6:14-17)**

**A. This \_\_\_\_\_ is not all there is (6:14)**

**B. As believers, no matter what we do the  
\_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ (6:15-17)**

#### IV. All \_\_\_\_\_ is not the \_\_\_\_\_ (6:18)

Not all sin is the same. Some sins are more blatant. For example, hatred and murder are both sins. One is obviously worse than the other. In the same way, lust and adultery are both sins. But they are not equally bad. Though equally guilty before the Lord, one is internal, and the other is external.

Paul says that *“every other sin a person commits is outside the body...”* The meaning of these words is difficult to determine. Many sins, such as substance abuse, gluttony, and suicide, have detrimental effects on the body. Paul’s words do not refer to disease and/or other damage caused by sin. Instead, his words are linked to the preceding discussion of **6:12–17**. There Paul established that Christians’ bodies are joined with Christ so that they become *“members of Christ”* (6:15) himself.

Sexual union with a prostitute violates one’s body by bringing it into a wrongful *“one flesh”* union, and by flaunting the mystical union with Christ (6:15). **It is in this sense that sexual immorality is a unique sin against the body.** It violates the most significant fact about believers’ physical existence: their bodies belong to Christ.

#### CONCLUSION

What can we take with us this morning?

##### **Two Lies & One Truth.**

- **Lie #1: Sex is \_\_\_\_\_**
- **Lie #2: Sex is \_\_\_\_\_**

*What’s the truth that Scripture teaches us?*

• **One Truth: Sex is a gift that points to an even greater gift.** God created the gift of sex to be enjoyed within the covenant of marriage so that He might magnify His covenant love for His people. God intends marriage and the joys of conjugal life to be a living parable about another marriage—Jesus’s union with his church (Eph. 5:32). **Marriage is to be an icon of Christ’s self-sacrificial love for his bride and his bride’s humble submission to him. It is to be a living and breathing depiction of the gospel.**

**Sex isn’t everything and it’s not nothing. It’s a gift that points to an even greater gift.** And that’s very good news because it puts sex — all of the hurts, regrets, and joys of sex — in its place, and points us to the true Lover of our souls, the One we were made to enjoy for eternity.

May the Lord God help us not to believe our culture’s lies. Help us to see sex for what you made it to be. And lead us into the eternal romance we were made to enjoy in Christ and with Christ.