

September 18, 2011
"Arguments against Sinning"
1 Corinthians 6:15-20

Here Paul is arguing against sin, especially sexual sin and yet his arguments are not limited to sexual sin! We need such arguments! "Prone to wander Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love."

I. *Argument #1 – Your bodies are members of Christ –*

¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make *them* members of a harlot? Certainly not!

¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body *with her*? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh."

¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. (1Co 6:15-18 NKJ)

1. *One man among the Corinthians was guilty of sexual immorality / even to a high degree –*

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles-- that a man has his father's wife! (1 Corinthians 5:1 NKJ)

2. *Paul would warn the others –*

- A. *Since they had not disciplined this man until Paul told them, whether others thought sexual immorality WRONG or not, they seem to think it NOT THAT BAD!*
- B. *Like the Corinthians we live in a world where sexual immorality is celebrated, young unmarried men and women who are virgins are made fun of and decrying homosexuality as a sin is considered homophobia – meaning we are the ones considered "sick." Paul knew such temptations were powerful, so he brings powerful arguments against them ---*

- 3. *Sexual sins, here the joining with a harlot, because our bodies are members of Christ, is said by Paul to involve Christ in our sins!*

II. *Argument # 2 - Your body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit –*

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is in you*, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? (1 Corinthians 6:19 NKJ)

1. *Christ cleansed the temple in Jerusalem with great zeal –*

¹³ Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

¹⁴ And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers doing business.

¹⁵ When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables.

¹⁶ And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!"

¹⁷ Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up." (Joh 2:13-17 NKJ)

2. *With even greater zeal He has cleansed us, even with His own blood and we have this high calling of being the Temple of the Holy Spirit –*

A. *We are the dwelling place of God –*

to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:19 NKJ)

B. *Christ gave His blood, He died, to wash us from our sins –*

⁵ **and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, (Rev 1:5 NKJ)**

And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, (Revelation 5:9 NKJ)

C. *We should endeavor to keep this house (our body) morally and spiritually clean!*

and you are not your own - :19

A. *This is a great privilege –*

- *We belong to someone – A Shepherd who provides for us a gives His life for us –*

<A Psalm of David.> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.² He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever. (Psalm 23:1-6 NKJ)

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. (John 10:10-11 NKJ)

- *He leads us –*

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (John 8:12 NKJ)

B. *This involves responsibility –*

We are not our own to do as we please, to waste time, to live in sin, to follow our ways –

3. *A conclusion to this argument --- LIVE FOR GOD'S GLORY! therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.*

A. *This is what we were created for – Revelation 4:11*

B. *This is what we are redeemed for –*

To glorify God in our body by chastity, moderation, labor (work for Christ) self-denial

C. *Glorify God with your body by –*

**Being willing to suffer if called to*

**Bowling in prayer and worship, using your voice to sing, pray, and share the gospel*

**Resist temptation*

III. *Argument #3 – You were bought with a price –*

For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. (1 Corinthians 6:20 NKJ)

1. *This purchase was / is a tremendous BLESSING to us –*

A. *Maybe we do not like the idea of being "bought?" This implies slavery!*

B. *Yet, we were already SLAVES to sin –*

⁶ **knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. (Rom 6:6 NKJ)**

¹⁶ **Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?**

¹⁷ **But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.**

¹⁸ **And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.**

¹⁹ **I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.**

²⁰ **For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.**

²¹ **What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.**

²² **But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. (Rom 6:16-22 NKJ)**

C. *As slaves to sin, we were dead in sin, subjects of Satan and children of wrath, we were on the road to Hell, being redeemed / purchased from these things WAS / IS GREAT –*

^{NKJ} **Ephesians 2:1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. (Eph 2:1-3 NKJ)**

2. *This purchase means we are not our own –*