

The Damaging Effects Of Sexual Sins To The Single (Pt. 3)

1 CORINTHIANS 5:1-13 NASB – (1) It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife. (2) You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed would be removed from your midst. (3) For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged him who has so committed this, as though I were present. (4) In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are assembled, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus, (5) I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. (6) Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough? (7) Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed. (8) Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. (9) I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; (10) I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world. (11) But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler--not even to eat with such a one. (12) For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church? (13) But those who are outside, God judges. REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM AMONG YOURSELVES.

We discover an example of sexual sin in **1 Corinthians 5:1-13**. The Apostle Paul notices a flagrant abuse, winked at by the Corinthians. Party spirit, and a false notion of Christian liberty, seems to have saved the offender from censure. Grievous indeed is it that crimes should sometimes be committed by professors of the gospel, of which even heathens would be ashamed. Spiritual pride and false doctrines tend to bring in, and to spread such scandals. How dreadful the effects of sin! The devil reigns where Christ does not. And a man is in his kingdom, and under his power, when not in Christ. Corrupt principles and examples, if not corrected, would hurt the whole church. Believers must have new hearts, and lead new lives. Their common conversation and religious deeds must be holy. So far is the sacrifice of Christ our Passover for us, from rendering personal and public holiness unnecessary, that it furnishes powerful reasons and motives for it. Without holiness we can neither live by faith in him, nor join in his ordinances with comfort and profit.

In the above passage, the woman who was involved in the affair ("his father's wife") was married, and therefore; she was committing adultery. However, the man who was involved in the affair was not married, therefore; he was committing fornication rather than adultery (for example, notice that **Matthew 15:19-20** uses different Greek words to distinguish between adultery and fornication, as Paul did in **Galatians 5:19-21**). The above passage doesn't say that the man had sex with his own mother, so this wasn't incest. There is also no hint of prostitution. In modern terminology we would say that he had an affair with his stepmother, and since he was unmarried then by definition he was having premarital sex (premarital sex does not imply that the man and woman intend to get married).

Sexual sin produces consequences that will affect us deeply. Viewing porn is a form of sex sin committed through lust and idolatry. If you are looking at pornography, you are susceptible to the same consequences that result from other forms of sexual sin. The consequences may not be easily absolved, but God will forgive you of your sin through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.

Whether you have already sinned, or are thinking about doing so, the point here is to encourage you not to sin.

SCRIPTURE READING

ISAIAH 42:16

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

For every circumstance and season of life, God has promises that offer direction, peace, perspective, and wisdom. Don't fight it, receive the blessing.

