

1. Last week I taught in part Gal 5:19. When the clock tolled 10:45 we were reviewing *The Doctrine of Fornication*.

2. Before continuing, I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may be necessary.

3. So far we have exegeted that portion of Gal 5:19 which in the KJV has been translated "*Now the works of the flesh are these; Adultery, fornication...* noting it might better be translated "**Understand, the production from the old sin nature are certainly seen in various sexual sins such as adultery and fornication ...**"

4. Gal 5:19 has been translated in its entirety in the KJV:

KJV-Sentence continues

Gal 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

5. I want to review some of that learned from our study of the *Doctrine of Fornication*.

### **Doctrine of Fornication**

1. Fornication is not so uncommon among believers today. As used in this doctrine fornication includes any manner of sex outside of marriage. This form of reversionism therefore includes adultery, homosexuality, bestiality etc.

2. Let's begin with a case study. The city of Corinth was a licentious place and thus a temptation to many of the citizens of Rome as they traveled the Empire. Many Christians came from the busy idolatrous Temples located all over the Roman Empire.

3. It was in these temples that phallic reversionism ran wild. Paul therefore wrote often and in detail about the evils of sexual reversionism.

3.1 The same indulgences were pervasive in many of the larger cities such as Rome, Corinth, Ephesus, Caesarea Maritime and Athens. Where there was an idolatrous temple there was sexual perversion.

3.2 Paul addressed the problem in no uncertain terms.

2Co 12:21 And lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and that I shall bewail many which have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they have committed.

3.3 Corinth was a sailor's and traveler's delight. It had something for everyone. It was located on an isthmus connecting Greece proper with Achaia or the Peloponnesus as it is known today.

3.4 The stop was made at Corinth to avoid the bad seas and winds of the Cape of Malaea. Idolatry practiced in Corinth included all manner of sexual activity as part of worship. Sex outside of marriage is a temptation which must be guarded against.

4. Christ has declared the right man and right woman to be of one flesh. He did not say it was a command for a happily married couple or a married couple who married because they were in love. Paul did not even confine the responsibility of chastity to married couples.

4.1 Sexual sins are unique to the extent that they are treated uniquely in Scripture and thus the only sins said to be offensive to the body which is the Temple of the Lord.

4.2 Whether we like it or not the relationship between the right man and right woman is special, very special and so should our attitudes be. Attitudes must come from doctrine cycled in the soul; so again, ignorance of doctrine is a major, pervasive and perpetual temporal problem.

4.3 From the Scriptures we can conclude when a man or woman has sex with one another there is a transcendental relationship established which must be "eternally enjoyed or eternally endured." Transcendental means "that surpassing all others; superior and beyond common thought. Such is the nature of all forms of sexual sin.

4.4 Satan attacks both man and woman with a special vigor trying to convince the both that service in marriage is rigorous and bound with a duty devoid of pleasure.

4.5 Recall the special relationship between man and woman in the garden when Satan made his original advance, attacked and set mankind into full scale retreat.

4.6 The authority of the man over the woman was of special importance in the original assault of Satan in the Garden. It must therefore be uniquely related to the angelic conflict. God first created the souls of man and woman as one: “male and female created He them.”

4.7 After the creation of the bodies of Adam and Eve, God then placed each in two separate bodies and left them in the Garden to enjoy one another. Sex, before the fall was for recreation and not procreation. How great sex in the Garden must have been—we can only imagine.

Gen 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Gen 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Gen 2:18 And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

Gen 2:22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

Gen 2:23 And Adam said, this is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

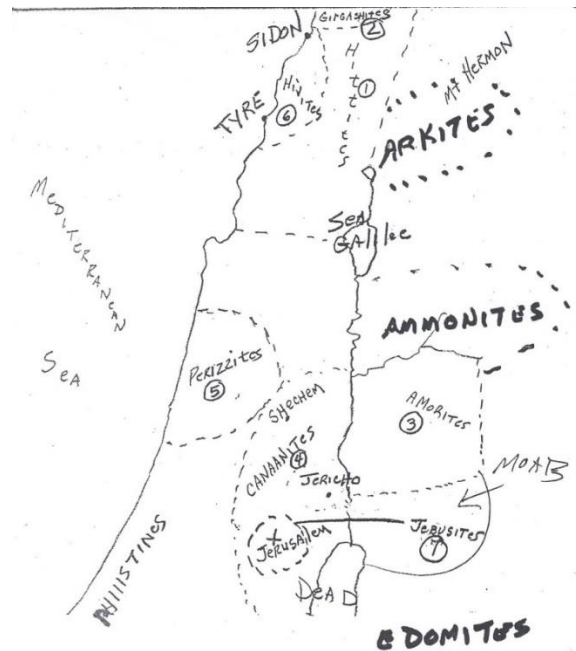
Gen 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

4.8. Sexual infidelity, be it fornication or adultery robs God of what is rightfully His. The plan and story of right man and right woman began early.

4.9 The Father, Son and Holy Spirit indwell your body; thus, the command “don't degrade the Trinity with illicit sex.” We will see more of verse 15 and how strong Paul felt about the sanctity of marriage.

1Co 6:15 Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.

5. Love between the right man and the right woman must extend only to your spouse and no one else. The worship of idols was pervasive among Gentile nations such as with the Canaanites with their worship of El Elyon, Molech, Baal, Ashtoreth, etc.



6. The same is true of the Babylonians with their worship of Ashtorath and Ishtar. The same is true of the Ugarite with their Baal and Mot certainly to include the incestuous relationship with Aneth etc. Sexual perversion resulted in demon possession and to protect His people Israel, God said “kill them all.”

6.1 The point: You cannot have illicit sex as your method of operation; but in doing so you run the risk of demon control as a believer and demon possession as an unbeliever.

Luk 8:2 And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils,

1Co 10:19 What say I then? that the idol is anything, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is anything?

1Co 10:20 But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.

2Co 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

2Co 6:15 And what relationship has Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

2Co 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

7. God from the beginning of His relationship with Israel has protected the Divine Institution of Marriage with the imposition of capital punishment for violators. Examples: Rape, Homosexuality, Incest, Fornication, Adultery, Bestiality, and Unchaste Status.

8. By reason of the believer's union with Christ, fornication robs the Lord of that which is his.

1Co 6:15 Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then *take* the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.

8.1 In verse 15 the negative is very strong: “God forbid” is very strong and better translated as an expletive. Let’s see how the ISV translated verse 15. “You know that your bodies belong to the Messiah, don't you? Should I take what belongs to the Messiah and unite them with a prostitute? Certainly not!”

1Co 6:16 What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.

8.2 The special relationship of sex and its transcendental nature is expressed in verse 16 above. There is no "What" in the Greek; it should be omitted. Know ye not is the preferred reading.

8.3 Again it must be stressed. Christians in the main fall into the category of "know ye nots." Sexual infidelity either before or after marriage robs not only someone else's partner of total oneness but it also robs the Lord of His uniquely established union for it is God's plan that a new personality result from the union.

8.4 A married couple functioning properly will grow alike, in a dysfunctional relationship each will doggedly hold their positions refusing to blend but steadfastly maintaining the accusatory irreverence of singularity.

1Co 6:17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

9. The phrase one spirit is one of the strongest expressions of unity and security in the Word of God. As Arthur T. Pierson has written in his book *Knowing the Scriptures*, "The sheep may wander from the shepherd, the branch may be cut off from the vine; the member may be severed from the body ... but when two spirits blend in one, what shall part them?"

1Co 6:18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

9.1 Flee is a present tense of habitual action from the verb **Pheugo**; thus it is better, "Make it your habit to flee."

10. The final phrases, without the body and against the body, found in verse eighteen are difficult. Perhaps the meaning is that other sins, such as drunkenness, have effects on the body, but fornication is a sin wrought within the body and involves a monstrous denial of union with what God has joined in eternity past and thus an attack on the believer's union with Christ.

11. Someone has said, "While it is often claimed that there is safety in numbers, there are times when there is more safety in exodus!" Joseph's experience comes to mind:

Gen 39:1 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there.

Gen 39:2 The LORD was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master.

Gen 39:3 When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did,

Gen 39:4 Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant.

Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned.

Gen 39:5 From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field.

Gen 39:6 So he left in Joseph's care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate.

Now Joseph was well-built and handsome,

Gen 39:7 and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"

Gen 39:8 But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care.

Gen 39:9 No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?"

Gen 39:10 And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.

Gen 39:11 One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside.

Gen 39:12 She caught him by his cloak and said, "Come to bed with me!" But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.

11.1 A cheap substitute of a perfect plan is the union with the harlot.

11.2 Because Satan has a way with words and he loves to use marriage and family as that onerous imposition imposed on both the "noble man and woman."

11.3 Many people no doubt stay together from their distorted sense of nobility rather than start the “fix,” which for the woman means obedience and for the man virtue love toward the woman.

12. Married couples, after the new has worn off, are particularly vulnerable in the area of love and marriage because Marriage is the only divine institution with a book-end relationship to its neighbor—Volition, *Marriage, Family* and Nationalism. Is it any wonder that the secular world attacks marriage and family with a vengeance?

13. Col. R. B. Thieme Jr. once said “I rue the day I taught “right man/right woman because the next thing I knew many couples were no longer happy. Divorces began to abound.” Soon there was the hue and cry, “This couldn't be God's will.”

14. C. S. Lewis in his book *The Screwtape Letters* describes in parody Satan's perspective of love and marriage.

"My dear Wormwood ... you complain that my last letter does not make it clear whether I regard being in love as a desirable state for a human or not ... leave them to discuss whether "love" or patriotism, or celibacy or education ... are good or bad. Can't you see there is no answer?

“Nothing matters at all ... thus it may be quite good for your patient to decide that "love" is good or bad ... If he is an emotional and gullible man feed him on minor poets and fifth rate novels ... until you have made him feel that love is ... intrinsically meritorious and this will result in your being able to steer him into a useful marriage ... marriage although the Enemy's invention has its uses. Like most of the other things which humans are excited about, such as health and sickness, age and youth, or war and peace, it is ... from the point of view of the spiritual life ... mainly raw material."

1Co 6:19 What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

1Co 6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, "and in your spirit, "which are God's.

15. Now let's see what we can learn from a word study of the last two nouns/adjectives found in verse nineteen. First however, we need a nexus with what we have translated so far:



**“Understand, the production from the old sin nature is certainly seen in various sexual sins such as adultery and fornication, ...”**

UNCLEANNESS, LASCIVIOUSNESS, ακαθαρσια, ασελγεια,

1. **Akatharsia Aselgeia** is better translated “filthy thoughts and shameful sexual conduct.

2. **Akatharsia Aselgeia** are nouns declined as nominative singulars. Let’s see how each is used elsewhere in Scripture. **Akatharsia** appears ten times in Scripture where it is always in the KJV translated “uncleaness.” Example:

KJV

Rom 1:24 Wherefore God also gave them up to **uncleanness** through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

Rom 1:25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Rom 1:26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

Rom 1:27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

Rom 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

Rom 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

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