

THE SANCTITY OF MARRIAGE

TEXT: (Exodus 20:14, KJV)

¹⁴Thou shalt not commit adultery

INTRODUCTION

- I. "Thou shalt have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3, KJV).
- II. "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image" (Exodus 20:4, KJV).
- III. "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain" (Exodus 20:7, KJV).
- IV. "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8, KJV).
- V. "Honour thy father and thy mother" (Exodus 20:12, KJV).
- VI. "You shall not murder" (Exodus 20:13, NIV).
- VII. "Thou shalt not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14, KJV).

I. ORDAINED BY GOD

A. Designed by God

1. "He brought her to the man" (Genesis 2:22, NIV).
2. "'Haven't you read,' he replied, 'that at the beginning the Creator "made them male and female," and said, "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh"?''" (Matthew 19:4-5, NIV).
3. "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body" (I Corinthians 6:18, NIV).

B. Marriage Fulfills at Least Four Purposes

1. Companionship.
 - a. "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken" (Ecclesiastes 4:12, NIV).
2. Sexual Fulfillment.
 - a. "Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well. Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers. May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. A loving doe, a graceful deer—may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be captivated by her love. Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress? Why embrace the bosom of another man's wife?" (Proverbs 5:15-20, NIV).
3. Completeness (Complement)
 - a. "The LORD God said, 'It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him'" (Genesis 2:18, NIV).
4. Fruitfulness.
 - a. "God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it'" (Genesis 1:28, NIV).

II. THE IMPACT OF ADULTERY

A. Impact on the Marriage

1. "If my heart has been seduced by a woman, or if I have lusted for my neighbor's wife, then let my wife serve another man; let other men sleep with her. For lust is a shameful sin, a crime that should be punished" (Job 31:9-11, NLT).
2. "If a man commits adultery with another man's wife—with the wife of his neighbor—both the adulterer and the adulteress must be put to death" (Leviticus 20:10, NIV).

B. Impact on the Spouse

1. “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh” (Genesis 2:24, KJV).

C. Impact on the Adulterer

1. “I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart” (Matthew 5:28, NIV).
2. “By this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme” (II Samuel 12:14, KJV).

D. Impact on the Church.

1. “I can hardly believe the report about the sexual immorality going on among you—something that even pagans don’t do. I am told that a man in your church is living in sin with his stepmother” (I Corinthians 5:1, NLT).
2. “A little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough” (I Corinthians 5:6, NIV).
3. “Among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality” (Ephesians 5:3, NIV).

E. Impact on Your Relationship with God

1. “How then could I do great wickedness, and sin against God?” (Genesis 39:9, KJV).
2. “When you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me” (Matthew 25:40, NLT).

III. AVOIDING THE SNARE OF ADULTERY

1. “The husband should fulfill his wife’s sexual needs, and the wife should fulfill her husband’s needs. The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband gives authority over his body to his wife” (I Corinthians 7:3-4, NLT).
2. “Do not deprive each other of sexual relations, unless you both agree to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time so you can give yourselves more completely to prayer. Afterward, you should come together again so that Satan won’t be able to tempt you because of your lack of self-control” (I Corinthians 7:5, NLT).

A. Walk in the Spirit

1. “Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh” (Galatians 5:16, KJV).

B. Avoid suggestive activities

1. “I refuse to take a second look at corrupting people and degrading things” (Psalm 101:3, MSG).

C. Count the cost

1. “Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well. ...May her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be intoxicated with her love. Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress? ...Why embrace the bosom of another man’s wife” (Proverbs 5:15, 19-20, NIV).

CONCLUSION

1. “Flee fornication” (I Corinthians 6:18, KJV).
2. “Run from sexual sin” (I Corinthians 6:18, NLT)!