

overcome by the flesh (Romans 8:5ff). Every man who desires to gain and maintain moral freedom must put away books, tv programs, magazines, places of entertainment etc. that he knows stirs up sensual desires. Those who live in moral victory know the precious truth of Proverbs 4:25: "Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee". The practical application of this verse can be illustrated in two ways: I must be careful when driving down the road not to give even a casual glance to a sensual billboard, or when checking out at the grocery store a casual glance at the cover of sensual magazines displayed for all to view. This may seem too narrow minded and puritanical for some, but for those who know the joy of moral freedom it guards the heart from destructive temptations that ruins the lives of the foolish (Proverbs 6:22).

CONCUPISCENCE (1 Thess. 4:4,5; Rom. 6:12; 7:7) -- When a man refuses to keep himself from lasciviousness, the next stage in moral decay is concupiscence. Concupiscence is the condition of a man when his physical drives are dominant over his spiritual drives. He is a fleshly carnal man, rather than a spiritual man (1 Cor. 2,3). He thinks he is free doing what he chooses, when in reality he is slowly becoming a slave to the passions of his own bodily desires (Romans 6:11-19). A spirit filled man has "self-control" (Gal. 5:22,23), but a man of concupiscence begins to manifest all forms of sensual lifestyle (Gal. 5:19,20). If there is not genuine repentance the next step will be taken --reprobation.

REPROBATION (Rom. 1:28) -- To fully understand reprobation, Romans chapter one must be carefully studied. Three times in this chapter God "gives over" a man who is living after the "lusts of his own heart" (Rom. 1:24,26,28). It is at this point that a man's carnal fleshly sensual lifestyle reaches the point of perversion. Sin never satisfies! It is always on a downward spiral. Reprobation is the condition of being unable to discern good and evil: A person in this state can commit all types of wicked sins with little consciousness of guilt (Rom. 1:28). Their conscience has become seared (1 Tim. 4:2).

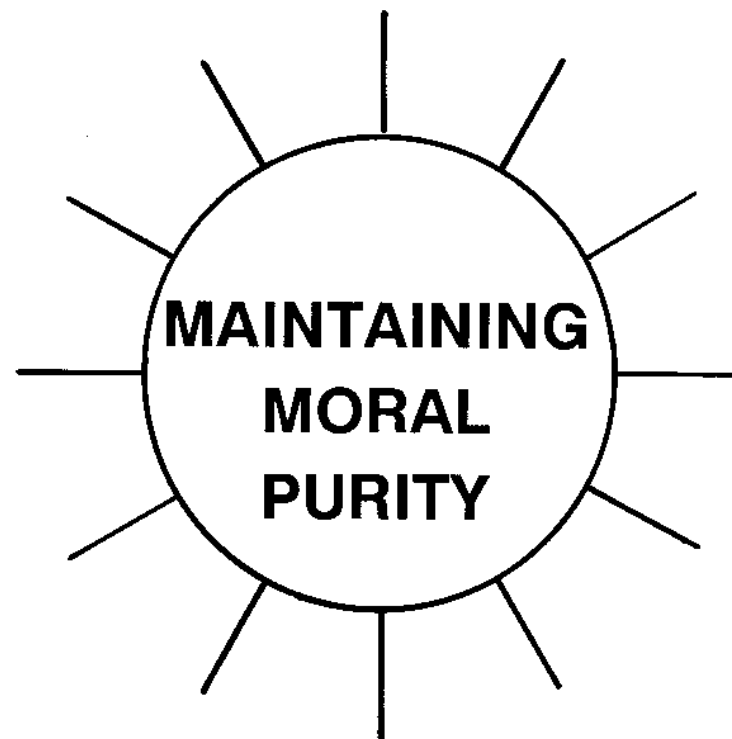
Tragically many combine their concupiscence and reprobation with religion. Read 2 Peter to discover how a false prophet will justify his sensual behavior in his "service of god".

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BIBLICAL ANSWERS TO CONTEMPORARY ISSUES



**God is light and in Him
is no darkness at all.
1 John 1:5**

Greenwich Baptist Church

P.O. BOX 52
GREENWICH, NEW JERSEY 08323

The enormous importance of moral purity is illustrated in the account of Balaam when Balak wanted him to curse God's people. God would not allow Balaam to curse Israel, but commanded him to bless Israel. Why? For a family, Church, or nation to be cursed, there must be a cause. According to Scripture a curse can only come to pass if there is a "cause". ("As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the [curse] causeless shall not come" Proverbs 26:2). Balaam reveals that he is unable to curse God's people because of their moral purity: "Behold, I have received commandment to bless: and he hath blessed; and I cannot reverse it. He HATH NOT BEHELD INIQUITY in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel: the LORD his God with him, and the shout of a king among them" (Numbers 23:20,21). "Iniquity" is most often used in reference to moral impurity!

How does a man lose his strength to be a man? Not every MALE maintains the characteristics of a MAN. The Bible indicates that a man will become weak and impotent if he fails to maintain moral purity. We are warned in Proverbs that a man loses his boldness and courage to be a leader and protector by immoral thoughts or actions "Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings" (Proverbs 31:3). The loss of Samson's strength beautifully illustrates how moral compromise can rob a man of his strength and consequently allow his enemies to defeat him (Judges 16:15-22). If there is moral compromise the "curse" then is able to come upon a man's family, Church or nation. "A morally clean husband is confident of his authority and exercises it in God-given confidence. A guilty man is less able to exercise authority and veers between arbitrariness and a surrender of authority. The law-order of the family is of a piece, and the person who breaches it at one point inevitably surrenders it at all other points" (R.J. Rushdoony, "The Institutes of Biblical Law", page 395).

Is it any wonder then that America is now experiencing God's curse of judgment? We are at an all time low in terms of sexual violations! The wide acceptance and practice of premarital sex, adultery, sodomy and other forms of immorality reminds one of Sodom and Gomorrah. Someone has commented: "If God doesn't soon judge America, he will owe Sodom and Gomorrah an apology". Our society has adopted a permissiveness towards sex that would have been a shame and reproach just a few years ago. Through movies, TV and videos, sexual violations are glorified and portrayed as normal behavior. As a result we are experiencing a proliferation of sexual diseases across our land. The price of the pleasures of sin has gone way up! If we are to survive as a nation there is an immediate need for a call to repentance. We must return to the moral absolutes of the Bible and exalt chastity, moral purity and marital fidelity as the basic foundation of a nation's blessing from God (Psalm 11:3).

J. D. Unwin in his book "Sex and Culture" makes a significant observation. He found that if we know the sexual regulations and conduct of a society, we can accurately "prophesy...the pattern of its cultural behavior." Mental development and cultural advance go hand in hand with the development of moral purity in a land. This is confirmed by Scripture. Decadence in a society

Word a living illustration of his displeasure with surrogate mothering and the devastating results which follow in Genesis 16. God had promised a child to Abraham and Sarah, but after much time elapsed without a child, she came up with "plan b". Her plan was to achieve through human effort what God had promised to supernaturally bring to pass. The results are with us today in the Jewish/Arab conflict (descendants of Isaac and Ishmael). There is much wisdom in waiting upon the Lord for His promise of children. If he chooses not to give them through natural relations of marriage, then adoption might be His will. Married couples without children have made unique contributions to the Kingdom of God because of the time and resources available to them. In any event, the desire for children should not become an "idol" in our life that causes us to go beyond the boundaries of the natural use of the body as God designed it. Just because science has made something medically possible doesn't mean it is morally permissible (Luke 16:15).

FROM MORAL FREEDOM TO MORAL BONDAGE

His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the [cords] of his sins" (Proverbs 5:22).

The further down the road of moral impurity a man goes, the greater the blindness and moral bondage he will experience. It is significant that when the moral impurity of Lot's day reached the stage of perversion that God's judgment was physical blindness and eventually physical death (Genesis 19:1-29). Whenever moral impurity begins to creep into a man's life, he has started down the road of blindness. God warns Christians in 2 Peter 1:5 to add "virtue" to their "faith". Having been born again by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the next step is to make sure there is "virtue" - (moral purity of character). Peter mentions other godly characteristics that should follow virtue in 2 Peter 1:5-7. Then he warns, if "these things" are neglected, the result will be "blindness" (2 Peter 1:9). This, of course, is spiritual blindness! Once a person rejects God's holy and righteous pathway for his life and starts down the pathway of sin, a subtle blindness and deception begins to creep into his life. Jesus gave some important instructions concerning one's eyesight: "The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great that darkness" (Matthew 6:22,23)! If a person continues down the pathway of sin, the blindness and deception worsens and the darkness increases. The person that used to have moral freedom is slowly becoming a slave to his own sinful passions. This pathway that seems right, because of the temporary pleasures of sin (Hebrews 11:25), could lead to physical blindness as mentioned above, or ultimately could end in death (Proverbs 14:12). The following terms in the Scripture explain further how a man becomes a slave to his moral passions.

LASCIVIOUSNESS (Gal 5:19; 2 Pet. 2:2,18) -- Lasciviousness is the stirring up of sensual desires. God warns us to make no provision for the flesh (Romans 13:14). If we stir up sensual desires our flesh will demand fulfillment! Proverbs warns: "Can a man take [fire] in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned" (Proverbs 6:27)? They that set their mind on the things of the flesh, will be

DIVORCE -- The Lord Jesus Christ gave a clear pronouncement of God's will concerning divorce: "...What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matthew 19:6). God hates divorce (Malachi 2:16). Just as two pieces of plywood that have been glued together can only be separated with damage to both pieces, so it is when divorce occurs between two people. Marriage is a covenant not a contract (Malachi 2:14). A contract can be broken with the mutual consent of the parties who made it. A covenant can only be broken by one event -- death. "For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man" (Romans 7:2,3).

Moses does give instructions about those who have been divorced in the Old Testament, but this Jesus said was necessary because of the hardness of men's hearts (Matt. 19:8). Men were putting away their wives even though God had forbidden it and Moses had to give instructions on what God's will is when divorce occurs (Deut. 24:1-4). The Church faces the same problem today!

There are no Biblical grounds for divorce and remarriage. The Matthew 19 passage and the 1 Corinthians 7:15 verse DO NOT give permission of divorce. We have more fully discussed these two passages in our booklet on divorce and remarriage.

SODOMY -- Sodomy is not in the genes as some so loudly proclaim. Sodomy is not a harmless alternative lifestyle. Sodomy is a sin that is an abomination in the sight of God and God promises certain judgment for it (Lev. 20:13; Romans 1:32). God has forthrightly declared: "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it abomination" (Lev. 18:22) and "There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel" (Deuteronomy 23:17). . Romans 1:24-32 gives a detailed explanation of the sequence of a man becoming a sodomite with a reprobate mind. Three times in this passage God gives men and women over to their vile passions (Romans 1;24,26,28). They are given over though because: (1) "...when they knew God, they glorified him not as God..." (1:21); (2) "...they exchanged the truth of God for a lie..." (1:25); (3) "...they did not like to retain God in their knowledge..." These Scriptures make it clear that the sin of sodomy is a result of men rejecting God as their creator and choosing to pursue the uncleanness of their own hearts (1:24). Is the sodomite beyond God's forgiveness? I have had some tell me they are. But we find in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 a list of sinners who have received God's forgiveness and salvation. Among the list are "abusers of themselves with mankind" -- (the sodomite).

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION -- God has clearly stated that conception and birth are not a purely natural process. He is the one who opens and shuts the womb (Gen. 29-30; 1 Sam 1:5; Ps. 127:3; Is. 66:9). God has recorded in His

is linked with it's sexual activity in Genesis 6: "There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same ame mighty men which were of old, men of renown. And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and hat every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:4,5). "The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. {12} And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. {13} And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth" (Genesis 6:11-13).

One cause of the moral collapse in our country is our failure to view sexually related sins in light of the complete teaching of Scripture. Moral purity has been too narrowly defined. This booklet will seek to explore 'a more comprehensive look at the issues of moral purity.

NAKEDNESS and (PRINCIPLES OF MODESTY) -- Most people are familiar with the account of Adam and Eve eating the forbidden fruit in the garden of Eden(Genesis 3). The immediate result of their disobedience was an awareness of their nakedness! They were naked before falling into sin and not ashamed (Genesis 2:25). But after their sin, their consciences were pricked with an awareness of their nakedness and their need to cover it. (3:10). Who told them to cover it? Why should they be ashamed of their nakedness? Weren't they husband and wife? God reveals to us here the paramount importance of living by principles of modesty -- especially modesty in the home! The seeds of sexual temptations are planted in a life when there is not proper dress and principles of modesty practiced within the context of the home and family. We need to blow the dust off of Leviticus chapter 18. God gives detailed instructions about nakedness in the home. Also, we are given an illustration of the severity of violating this principle. Read again in Genesis chapter 9:20-29 what happened to one of Noah's sons when he viewed his father's nakedness. It is significant that God made clothes for Adam and Eve to clothe their nakedness when they were the only two people in existence (Genesis 3;20,21). It is a basic fundamental principle of life that God established from the beginning of man's existence that the body is to be properly clothed. This sense of modesty is innately in every man's conscience and those who don't follow this principle know full well the guilt and embarrassment that is sure to follow.

STRANGE WOMAN and (COURTSHIP PRINCIPLES) Anyone who has ever read Proverbs will quickly discover many warnings about someone called the "strange woman" (2:16; 5:3,20; 6:24; 7:5; 20:16; 23:27; 27:13). It is significant that when Adam had sexual relations with his wife, the Bible reports that he "knew" her (Genesis 4:1). Every lady is to be a strange woman to a man except his wife. God hasn't designed that we shop around experimenting with those available and then make our choice. The concept of "dating" to find a marriage partner is not in the Bible. "Courtship" is God's method. The essence of courtship is that there is no romantic overtures until there has been

established the commitment of marriage. Marriage is not to be discussed with a lady until her father's permission is secured (1 Cor. 7:36:-38). In other words the physical side of the relationship is reserved exclusive for a marital commitment. Paul clearly says in 1 Corinthians 7:1 "...it is good for a man not to touch a woman". God doesn't want man shopping around using the dating method to find a life partner. God put Adam to sleep when he made Eve to be his wife. Adam wasn't looking behind every bush hoping to find her. The priority of our life should be how we can best serve the Lord (1 Cor. 7:27-33). As we make that our priority, God will bring the spouse of His choosing into our life who can help us more effectively work out His plan for our lives. The initial attraction of two people to one another should be based upon Godly character qualities. God clearly instructs us that the real beauty of a lady is related to her "meek and quiet spirit" (1 Peter 3:1-7). God has illustrated the basis of courtship and marriage by the example of Ruth and Boaz. Read the four short chapters of the book of Ruth again and notice that the attraction of Boaz to Ruth was her Godly character. When the servant of Abraham sought after a bride for Isaac, he based his choice on her character quality of servant-hood (Gen. 24:13,14).

SEX EDUCATION and (RELATIVISM) -- The present day Sex Education classes advocating "safe sex" to teenagers without the boundaries of moral absolutes is clearly a violation of Scripture. God's people are to be simple towards evil and wise to that which is good (Romans 16:19). The first commandment God gave was to restrict man's knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 2:17). This whole idea of letting teenagers determine their own values by open-minded consideration of all the options is nothing but moral relativism that leads to destruction. The more teens are instructed, the more sexually active they become! No one is telling them it is wrong! Not only are there physical consequences (which the sex education classes usually bring out), there are also the more devastating spiritual consequences. Many times all the classes do is arouse the teenagers curiosity to try out sex. After all, the school system is going to all the trouble to tell them how to do it "safely"; and furthermore, if a baby does come along, they've been instructed how to acquire an abortion. Youth have been convinced that to be sexually active is normal and to maintain "chastity" is to be some weird oddball. "One of the most pernicious myths of the twentieth century is the notion of value free education. To teach sex as if it were merely physical, or to teach all viewpoints about sexual behavior as if it made no difference, is a very powerful value indeed. It represents commitment to a relativistic ethic, and nothing could be more destructive of a true understanding of sex" (Robertson McQuilken, Biblical Ethics, page 239).

FORNICATION -- Most people are familiar with what used to be called a "shot-gun" wedding. If a single fellow and girl have sexual relations and the girl conceives; the father of the girl demands the fellow marry his daughter. Because of the rampant sexual violations today, we need to re-examine what God says about marriage, fornication and babies. First of all, having sexual relations with a person does not automatically join two people in marriage in the sight of God. There is a sin of fornication -- sex before marriage (1 Cor.

relatives. Cain must have married his sister (Gen. 4:17). Moses father, Amram married a young aunt, his father's sister, Jochabed (Exodus 6:20). Abraham married Sarah, a half sister (Gen. 20:12). God permitted this action in the beginning of man's history. But later in Leviticus 18 God gives detailed warnings about the marriage of close relatives. As the seed of man was passed on the blood line had more and more possibilities of genetic problems. R. J. Rushdoony explains this sequence: "The Biblical record indicates close breeding in ancient times without serious or any genetic damage, whereas today the genetic damage is great. The genetic potentialities of Adam and Eve in Eden were wholly good. After the fall, which affected the total man, defects were no doubt present but recessive, coming to the fore only with progressive inbreeding. Arthur C. Custance has called attention to the present situation with respect to inbreeding: "From a mathematical point of view, the situation may be put in this way: that matings of first cousins result in the offspring having identical genes in a ratio of 1 to 7. Many of these genes will be recessive mutants and therefore detrimental to the possessor when inherited homously. Mating of uncle to niece or nephew to aunt raises this ratio to 1 to 3. Matings among brothers and sisters raises this ratio, often disastrously, 1 to 1." God's restrictions in the law are obviously given to man to protect him from harm God knows will surely follow and in this particular case has been verified by modern science.

ADULTERY -- When a man marries, he vows to his wife to "keep thee only unto her" till "death do us part". This means that the husband will have eyes only for his wife! According to 1 Timothy 3:2, a man should be the "husband of one wife". A better translation based on the original greek would read: "a one woman man". Whether in thought or in action a man is to maintain romantic feelings for only one lady in his life. The Bible speaks of those who have "...eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin..." (2 Peter 2:14). Jesus explained that a man can commit adultery in his thought life by lusting after other women in his thoughts (Matt. 5:28). The vow of purity in marriage is a serious matter with God: "be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few. When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay" (Ecclesiastes 5:2,4,5). Job did what every man should do with his eyes; he made a covenant with his eyes in the sight of God: for ever? "I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid" (Job 31:1)? The more a man maintains purity in his thought life for his wife, the more she will feel cherished and their marriage can be a beautiful example of Christ's love for the Church (Eph. 5:25)

BESTIALITY -- "Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death" (Exodus 22:19). "And if a man lie with a beast, he shall surely be put to death: and ye shall slay the beast. And if a woman approach unto any beast, and lie down thereto, thou shalt kill the woman, and the beast: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them" (Leviticus 20:15,16). These two scriptures along with Leviticus 18:23-27 speak for themselves!

copulation go out from him, then he shall wash all his flesh in water, and be unclean until the even. And if any man's seed of copulation go out from him, then he shall wash all his flesh in water, and be unclean until the even" (Leviticus 15:16,17). "If there be among you any man, that is not clean by reason of uncleanness that chanceth him by night, then shall he go abroad out of the camp, he shall not come within the camp. But it shall be, when evening cometh on, he shall wash himself with water: and when the sun is down, he shall come into the camp again" (Deuteronomy 23:10,11).

MONTHLY CYCLE AND BIRTH OF CHILDREN -- God has designed that a husband live in harmony with his wife's cycle. This includes sexual abstinence during her menstruation. This may be common sense to some, but it is surprising how many violate this area of moral purity. If physical complications are present at the time of the cycle another week of abstinence should be considered (Leviticus 15:18-28). The seriousness of this offense is revealed in Leviticus 20:18: "And if a man shall lie with a woman having her sickness, and shall uncover her nakedness; he hath discovered her fountain, and she hath uncovered the fountain of her blood: and both of them shall be cut off from among their people". A godly man who desires to have the blessing of God upon his life will make sure he keeps his marriage pure in this area (Ezekiel 18:5-9). Further times of abstinence are necessary after the birth of children: "Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, if a woman have conceived seed, and born a man child: then she shall be unclean seven days; according to the days of the separation for her infirmity shall she be unclean. {3} And in the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised. {4} And she shall then continue in the blood of her purifying three and thirty days; she shall touch no hallowed thing, nor come into the sanctuary, until the days of her purifying be fulfilled. {5} But if she bear a maid child, then she shall be unclean two weeks, as in her separation: and she shall continue in the blood of her purifying threescore and six days" (Leviticus 12:2-5). In the case of a male child, there should be 40 days of abstinence, and in the case of a female child there should be 80 days of abstinence. Those Jewish families that have consistently followed these instructions have a much lower rate of cancer among their ladies. God has promised to His people that the obeying of His commands carries a health benefit: "And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put [none of these diseases] upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee" (Exodus 15:26)

INCEST (ABUSE) -- One of the most severe warnings Jesus ever gave concerned the offending of little ones: "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe unto the world because of offenses! for it must needs be that offenses come; but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh (Matthew 18:6,7)!"

INCEST (MARRIAGE) When God first created Adam and Eve and men began to multiply on the face of the earth there was obviously the marriage of close

6:9). Marriage of two people is a covenant in the sight of God that includes the exchanging of vows (Mal. 2:14-16; Eccl. 5:1-8). Until this publicly takes place, two people have not been lawfully joined together in the sight of God (Matt. 19:6). According to God's law, if a couple had sexual relations before marriage, they were not allowed under any circumstances in the future to divorce (Deut. 22:29). According to God's Word, a man who has had physical relations with a lady should then bear the responsibility of marrying her (Deut. 22:28,29). No mention is made of her conceiving a child. The act of fornication itself requires the marriage! Furthermore, if the father of the girl does not think the fellow will provide for and protect his daughter properly, he has the authority under God to forbid his daughter to marry him (Exodus 22:16,17). The fellow should then bear the responsibility of working with the girl's father to prove himself worthy of his daughter's hand in marriage. He also has a financial responsibility towards her, especially if there is a child involved (Exodus 22:16,17). He is not free to go on his merry way, having indulged his lustful desires. Sexual relationships before marriage are warned against in the following passages: (Acts 15:20; 1 Cor. 6:9,13,18; Gal. 5:19; Eph. 5:3, Col. 3:5; 1 Thess. 4:3). Paul encourages singleness to those who are able to maintain self-control because as he puts it they have a greater freedom to serve the Lord (1 Cor. 7:25-33). But, he also strongly encourages believers who lack self-control to avoid the sin of fornication through marriage (7:1-9). A word of caution is needed here. As Walter Trobisch has observed: "the young man who has not learned self-control before marriage will not have it during marriage...". God did not design marriage to fulfill abnormal sex drives. The principles of courtship discussed in other parts of this booklet should be carefully followed. It is especially important that a fellow work through the father of the girl first to determine if it is God's will for them to marry. The topic of marriage should not be voiced to the girl until permission is granted by her father to the fellow. Paul emphasizes the importance of this step in the same chapter of 1st Corinthians (7:36-38).

POLYGAMY -- Polygamy is never encouraged in the Scriptures. God's design for marriage is "one woman for one man for a lifetime" (1 Tim. 3:2; 5:9). God didn't make wives for Adam, He made him a wife. Paul plainly instructed the Corinthians that to avoid the sin of fornication, "...let every man have HIS OWN WIFE" not wives (1 Cor. 7:2). Polygamy was mentioned as part of the wicked Cainite civilization (Gen. 4:23). God specifically forbid polygamy (Deut. 17:17). Jesus said that marriage is the joining together of TWO who become one flesh (Matt. 19:5). Polygamy was tolerated in the lives of some of the men in the Old Testament, but the results were always disastrous. Solomon's many wives turned his heart away from the Lord (1 Kings 11:4). Abraham experienced much heartache and sorrow because of the rivalry and jealousy between his wife (Sarah) and his wife's handmaid (Hagar) who bore his child Ishmael (Genesis 16; 21:9-21). Elkanah's wife, Hannah, was considered a "rival" or adversary by his other wife (Peninnah), who would "...provoke her {Hannah} sorely, to irritate her..." (1 Sam. 1:6). After Israel's return from the Babylonian exile there is no reference to polygamy in any of the post-Exilic books of the Old Testament.

PORNOGRAPHY -- Sexual sins are initiated in the thought life. You sow a thought, you reap an action (James 1:15). You sow an action, you reap a habit. You sow a habit, you reap a lifestyle. You sow a lifestyle you reap a destiny (1 Cor. 6:9,10)! The great devastation of pornography is not confined to the mind. Whatever trash goes into the mind will come out into the life: "For as he [thinketh] in his heart, so he..." (Proverbs 23:7). The serial killer Ted Bundy, who was executed in Florida, confessed to the horrors of his pornography addiction that drove him to commit violent acts and murder with his victims. Sin will always take a man further than he intended to go, sin will always keep a man longer than he intended to stay, and sin will always make a man pay more than he intended to pay! Sin is candy coated with pleasures for a moment (Heb. 11:25) but afterwards there is great destruction and bondage (Prov. 14:12). "His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the [cords] of his sins" (Proverbs 5:22). Pornography is not a private harmless choice of an individual! A man doesn't stay at one level of pornography. The viewing material goes from one degree of iniquity to another (Romans 6:19). The wages of lust is always more lust! Soon the novelty of the viewing material wears out and in order to find fulfillment those addicted to pornography must act out the scenes that have dominated their minds for so long. Man is not freely enjoying what he chooses to read, but has become a slave to sin that never satisfies "Hell and destruction are never full; so the [eyes] of man are never satisfied" (Proverbs 28:27). Most people don't realize that pornography is wholesale prostitution and adultery. Jesus explained the great destruction of pornography when he warned...That whosoever looketh on a woman to [lust] after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matthew 5:28). Adultery is not limited to the physical act, but may be committed by sexual lustful thoughts.

DEFRAUDING -- God gives a very serious warning to those who defraud others: "That no an go beyond and [defraud] his brother in any matter: because that the Lord the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified" (1 Thessalonians 4:6). Defrauding is the act of stirring up sensual desires in another person that cannot be righteously satisfied in the sight of God. God has designed for all sexual desires to be fulfilled within the holy bonds of marriage (Heb. 13:4). This is the only way they can be righteously satisfied. If a girl dresses in such a way to arouse sexual desires within a man who is not her husband, she has defrauded him and will suffer God's judgment as revealed in 1 Thess. 4:6. The same is true for the man who arouses the girl's desires by promises of marriage and commitment which he has no intentions of carrying out. His conversation is for the purpose of getting what he wants. He tells the girl he loves her and if she really loves him she will cooperate. That's not love but lust! Love can always wait to give to the other person, lust demands satisfaction now!

"God's pattern is for each person to save his mind and body for the one to whom he will be married. The basic question is not, 'How do I feel?' nor even, 'How does she (he) feel?' But rather, 'What level of commitment have we made?' To engage in talk or activity that is sexually arousing to either party before commitment to lifelong responsibility in marriage is mental fornication,

that is, sexually coveting that which is not one's own. A person has responsibility not only for self, but for the other person. Love, not desire, must control. The pure-in-heart and loving person will be careful not to arouse desires in the other person which he is not prepared to meet through commitment" (Robertson McQuilkin, "Biblical Ethics", page 251). Any overtures of romantic expression should be prefaced with the question: "Am I prepared to marry this person?"

MARRIAGE BED UNDEFILED -- "[Marriage] honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4). A more precise translation of this verse based on Greek tense is that the marriage bed should be KEPT UNDEFILED! Many today advocate the morality that anything goes between two married partners in their sexual relationship as long as both parties consent to participate. This is contrary to God's purity! In fact, in this verse God warns that He himself will judge those who violate the marriage bed within their marriage. A thorough study of the word "uncleanness" clearly indicates that the marriage bed itself can become defiled if God's design for sex is violated. Consider the following references which link uncleanness with sexual sins: "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, [uncleanness], lasciviousness" (Galatians 5:19). "Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all [uncleanness] with greediness" (Ephesians 4:19). "But fornication, and all [uncleanness], or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints" (Ephesians 5:3). "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, [uncleanness], inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry" (Colossians 3:5). In Romans 1:24-32 there is a detailed description of those given over to uncleanness by God. The uncleanness is described as "leaving the natural use of the body". God has designed a husband and wife's body to be joined in oneness so that the blessing of that oneness results in children. God has so designed life that with every privilege or pleasure we seek to enjoy there should be a corresponding responsibility. Sex within marriage is not to be reduced to the mere recreational pleasure of the couple. God reveals his displeasure with Onan in Genesis 38:9,10 when he refused to consummate the sexual relation towards the purpose of children. It is possible within the confines of the marriage bed to commit acts of uncleanness that defile the marriage bed. It is possible to yield one's members even within marriage to uncleanness (Romans 6:19). God has called every one of us to "know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor" (1 Thess. 4:4). "God hath not called us to uncleanness, but unto holiness" (1 Thess. 4:7).

SELF ABUSE -- Masturbation is not a normal part of growing up. All that has just been discussed about "uncleanness" also applies to this area of sexual violation. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 6:12 that he will not be brought under the power of anything. A habit such as this that compels us or controls us, especially when accompanied by lustful thoughts (Matt. 5:28) violates God's design for man's body. It is leaving the "natural use of the body" (Rom. 1:26,27). God makes mention of the uncleanness of a man's seed passing out of his body outside of the marital relationship: "And if any man's seed of