

conscience through rationalization, drugs, alcohol, or suicide (2Cor. 7:10). Immorality is a leading cause of suicide.

Anger and Hatred -- In 2Samuel 13, we find a sordid story of how King David's son had premarital sex with his stepsister and his love for her turned to hatred. Many girls have surrendered themselves physically to fellows who promised them all the joys of commitment in marriage only to find that after he satisfied his sexual desires she was no longer desirable to him. When we violate God's laws of morality, we can expect things to turn out badly (Prov. 5:4).

Disgrace -- Prov. 5:8-9 and 6:32-33 tells us immorality will bring dishonor and shame. No parent wants their children to make wrong choices. Child bearing is a blessed event with times of rejoicing for family members, but a child conceived out of wedlock brings shame and embarrassment. When a child discovers he was "an accident" often he has trouble accepting God's plan for his life.

Spiritual Results of Fornication

Judgment -- "Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers (fornicators) and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4). "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: (Hebrews 9:27). God's judgment is by His unchanging standards and not by the changing standards of society (Romans 3:19). Immorality brings God's judgment also upon nation's (Leviticus 26:14-16; Deut. 28:58-61). There is a great financial cost to a nation, but even greater is that nation loses the protection of the Lord. Instead of being the head over nations, they become the tail (Deut. 28:13, 44).

Damnation -- The ways of fornication are the ways of death and hell (Prov. 5:5; 7:27). This truth must be understood in the context of man being under God's judgment for his sinful human nature, sins, and lack of righteousness. The unworthiness of man to stand in God's presence is universal with the one exception of Jesus Christ. It is noteworthy, however that God singles out some sins to make it unmistakably clear that they that do such will not be in God's kingdom. "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God" (1Cor. 6:9,10). Premarital sex is listed first in the list of sins that bring eternal damnation! See also Galatians 5: 19, 21 and Revelation 21: 8.

Forgiveness

We can be free from God's wrath and condemnation of sexual sins. After Paul listed the sexual sins that result in the eternal judgment of hell, he then declares: "and such were some of you. But ye are washed, but you were sanctified, but ye were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus." This was true of them because they had repented of their sins, and found forgiveness of their sins through faith in Jesus Christ (1Cor. 6:11; Acts 2:37,38). Jesus, the Son of God, paid the penalty for man's sin and rebellion towards God. His death, burial, and resurrection make it possible for any sinner to be forgiven and receive the free gift of eternal life (1Cor. 15:1-3; Romans 6:23). Genuine repentance will result in you following the same instructions that Jesus gave to the woman taken in adultery "go and sin no more" (John 8:1-11).

The CORNERSTONE

BIBLICAL ANSWERS TO CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

PRE-MARITAL SEX



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The wide acceptance of premarital sex in today's society is a dramatic change from the traditional moral values of the past! Our society has accepted a morally permissible attitude towards premarital sex. All forms of immorality are glorified through the internet, TV, videos, movies, magazines, and billboards. Both teens and adults are indulging in sexual immorality because of the modern philosophy as stated by Hugh Hefner:

“Sex is a function of the body—a drive which man shares with animals, like eating, drinking, and sleeping. It is a physical demand that must be satisfied. If you don't satisfy it, you will have all sorts of neurosis and repression psychosis. Sex is here to stay; let's forget the prudery that makes us hide from it. Throw away those inhibitions, find a girl who is like-minded, and let yourself go.”

Sex education courses in public schools instruct teens on how to get condoms and how to use them. Pornography is now readily available at the local convenience store or on the Internet. The increasing financial burden caused by "unwanted pregnancies" and the fear of "venereal diseases" has had little effect in curbing the promiscuous lifestyle of our society. There is no doubt that immorality has brought our nation under God's wrath and judgment (Rom. 1:18). The only hope for the inevitable collapse of our nation is a return to absolute standards of moral purity!

God's Plan and Purpose for the Family -- God gave the instructions "be fruitful and multiply" (Genesis 1:28) to a husband and wife in the covenant of marriage. God designed that children should be brought "up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4) by a father vowed to a mother in marriage. Thus providing a secure and loving home for children. The physical relation was never intended to be for the mutual recreational pleasure of two consenting adults outside of the marriage covenant. It is reserved for those who through the covenant of marriage would bear the responsibility of raising children in a loving and secure family atmosphere as God intended.

God's Design for Physical Oneness -- When Adam had sexual relations with his wife, it is described in the Bible that he "knew" her (Genesis 4:1). It is God's design that a man only knows one woman in physical intimacy. This accounts for Paul's warning in 1 Cor. 7:1: "Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: *It is good for a man not to touch a woman.*" Any physical contact that leads to romantic involvement should be reserved for the man or woman you have committed to marry. Sexual union was never designed by God to take place outside of the covenant of marriage. Only when two people have clearly vowed their allegiance to each other for a lifetime (Matt. 19:6) can there be the proper union of sexual relations in the sight of God. God severely warns here that any sexual activity outside of marriage He will personally judge.

The Sin of Fornication -- The 7th Commandment forbids all sexual intercourse except of a husband and wife: "thou shalt not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14; Deut. 5:18, see also Exodus 22:16 and Deut. 22:28-29). The Bible further describes the sin of premarital sex by using the term "fornication"

(1 Cor. 6:13,18). Fornication is defined in Webster's New World Dictionary as "voluntary sexual intercourse between unmarried persons." Other passages warn of the dangers and judgment that result from the sin of fornication (Eph. 5:3; Colossians 3:5; 1Thess. 4:3; 1Cor. 7:2; 10:8). God's Word did not require a couple guilty of premarital sexual activity to get married if the father of the girl refused (Ex. 22:16-17), but the man of the couple was held accountable for their sin.

Physical Results of Fornication

Unwanted Children -- Millions of babies are conceived out of wedlock each year. Over 1.5 million unborn babies are aborted each year, over 90 percent of which are simply not wanted and are described as "inconveniences." Over 80 percent of all these abortions are performed on unmarried mothers. Of these babies that are allowed to be born many will not have a loving father and mother or suitable home environment. Many will be abused or abandoned. Many will become juvenile delinquents, and trouble will be their lot in life.

Loss of Money -- Prov. 5:10 tells us that those involved in immorality will suffer a heavy financial loss. Many bright futures for young people have been dimmed by a moment of pleasure. Many are strapped with medical and child support expenses even though marriage was never consummated.

Weak Marriages -- Have-to marriages have a high casualty rate. Many end in divorce and great harm is done to the children involved--why? Sexual intercourse involves strong emotions of intimacy that cause a husband and a wife to be drawn to one another. When the physical drives of the relationship are dominant over the spiritual drives of the relationship the results are disasters. Without the foundation of spiritual commitments a strong marriage cannot be built.

Disease -- One of God's judgments of sexual immorality is disease (Prov. 5:3-12). Venereal diseases have become rampant in America because of sexual immorality. Presently, we have gonorrhea, syphilis, genital herpes, human papilloma virus, AIDS, etc. Contrary to popular instructions, it is not true that using condoms results in safe sex! The only safe sex is within the confines of marriage. Millions will die from venereal diseases. This represents the great health hazard of all human history.

Death -- God warns that an immoral lifestyle could result in premature death (Prov. 5:5; 7:23, 26; 10:27; Micah 6:13; and 1Cor. 10:8). Dying an early death does not necessarily require the means of venereal disease! Sexual violations are not only an offense internally to the body (1Cor. 6:18), but more importantly it is a sin against the God of heaven who warns of His judgment against such actions (1Cor. 5:1-6; 6:9-10). See also Leviticus 26:14-16; Deut. 28:58-61; Micah 6:13.

Mental Results of Fornication

Guilt -- God's laws are written upon man's heart and cannot be violated without experiencing guilt (Romans 2:14,15). The proper way to deal with guilt and to cleanse our conscience is confession and repentance (Prov. 28:13; 1John 1:6-10). Tragically, many deal with guilt the wrong way and suppress their