

PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

1 CORINTHIANS 5:1-8

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX729 NOVEMBER 28, 2010

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

SAINTS, SEX AND SINNERS – PART 1

HOW TO BE A CHURCH THAT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Maturity, Servanthood, Leadership, Discipleship

1 Corinthians 5:1-8

It is **actually reported** *that there is sexual immorality* among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles - that is, a man has his father's wife! :2 And you are **puffed up**, and have not rather **mourned**, that he who has done this deed might be **taken away from among you**. :3 For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have **already judged** (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed. :4 **In the name** of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are (a) **gathered together**, (b) along with my spirit, (c) with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, :5 (d) **deliver** such a one to **Satan** for the **destruction of the flesh**, (e) that **his spirit may be saved** in the day of the Lord Jesus. :6 Your **glorying** is not good. Do you not know that a little **leaven** leavens the whole lump? :7 Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our **Passover**, was sacrificed for us. :8 Therefore let us **keep the feast**, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of **malice** and **wickedness**, but with the unleavened bread of **sincerity** and **truth**.

In Chapters 5 and 6 Paul introduces a whole new section

of the letter to us. Previous to this, the apostle has been dealing with pride and its consequences in the Corinthian assembly, and what a terrible thing was happening there because of the love of human wisdom and the love of human status. **Now he turns to a related theme, one that is somewhat different, but related to carnality: - The issue of Sexual Immorality and its problems.**

We know from Historical accounts that these Greek cultures and cities, such as Corinth, **were given over to the casual acceptance of sex outside of the protection of the marriage relationship.**

THE CONTEXT OF: SAINTS, SEX AND SINNERS

1 Corinthians 1:2

To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place (*right here, right now*) call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,

SAINTS, SEX AND SINNERS

1.) Recognizing the dangers of Sexual Sin

v.1

It is **actually** (*commonly*) **reported** that there is **sexual immorality** among you, and such **sexual immorality** as is not even named among the Gentiles – that is, a man has his father's wife!

1a.) Sexual sins carry a greater weight

It's always sad when the world has to rebuke the church.

It's sad when non-believers have to point out to the "believer" of their sinful lifestyle.

Sexual Immorality

pornei ÷ a **porneia**, *por-ni'-ah*; any form of **unauthorized** sexual behavior. Any sexual act outside of marriage, fornication, adultery, incest. **Unlawful** lust.

- Magnitude of Scope is Directly Tied to Imagination and Thought to Deed -

The "Spirituality" of Our Sexuality

Matthew 19:4-6

And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning 'made them male and female,' :5 and said, "*For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh*"? :6 So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

Sexual Sins Carry a Greater Weight – How?

(1) Satan Knows The Power of a God Ordained Intimate Relationship

(it **emotionally binds** two separate people into one)

(it **physically walls** out the world from being able to get in)

(it **spiritually unites** the two before the Lord)

(Knowingly or Unknowingly)

It's The "Spirituality" of Our Sexuality that is Attractive to Us.

Acceptance / Love / Unity / Peace / Joy / Safety

Genesis 2:20-3:1

So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. :21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. :22 Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, **and He brought her to the man.** :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." :24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be **joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.** :25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.... 3:1 (and the very next verse says that Satan manifests himself using a serpent - "What Up Girl? - Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?")

RECOGNIZING THE DANGER OF SEXUAL SIN

1b.) Sexual sins pack a greater burden

1 It is **actually reported** that there is **sexual immorality** among you, and such **sexual immorality** as is not even named among the Gentiles - that is, a man has **his father's wife!**

A man has his father's wife!

This is a "Step-Mother & Step-Son" Relationship.
(for details on sexual immorality – read Leviticus 18)

It Packs A Greater Burden

NLT – 1st Corinthians 6:15-20

Don't you realize that your bodies are actually parts of Christ? Should a man take his body, which belongs to Christ, and join it to a prostitute? Never! :16 And don't you know that if a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her? For the Scriptures say, "*The two are united into one.*" :17 But the person who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. :18 Flee from sexual sin! **No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body.** :19 Or don't you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, :20 for God bought you with a high price. So you must **honor God with your body.**

We Live in a “Sexually Charged” Age.

Every type of sexual abuse is up and increasing, while Satan appears to be winning the war on approved, ordained and blessed sex among married couples.

Crime scenes / Murder Scenes / Abuse / TSA - Airport Security

1 Corinthians 7:1-5

Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me: *It is good for a man not to touch a woman.* :2 Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. :3 Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. :4 The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband *does*. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife *does*. :5 Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

RECOGNIZING THE DANGER OF SEXUAL SIN

1c.) Sexual sins steal a greater piece

1 It is **actually reported** that there is **sexual immorality** among you, and such **sexual immorality** as is not even named among the Gentiles - that is, a man has his father's wife!

Think for a Moment;

Where did we ever come up with the idea that *“if I give myself to this person – things will be better?”*

Innocence, Peace, Self-Worth, Personal Value

2 Samuel 13

And it came to pass after this, that Absalom the son of David had a fair sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her. :2 And Amnon was so vexed, that he fell sick for his sister Tamar; for she was a virgin; and Amnon thought it hard for him to do anything to her... :11 Now when she had brought *them* to him to eat, he took hold of her and said to her, “Come, lie with me, my sister.” :12 But she answered him, “No, my brother, do not force me, for no such thing should be done in Israel. Do not do this disgraceful thing!... :14 However, he would not heed her voice; and being stronger than she, he forced her and lay with her. :15 Then Amnon hated

her exceedingly, so that the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, "Arise, be gone!"

1 Thessalonians 4:4-8

Each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, :5 not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; :6 and that in this matter no one should defraud (*steal, wrong, take in a sexual manner*) his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. :7 For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. :8 Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God,

————— *End of Study* —————