

This Body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit

A study of right sexual behaviour from the Scriptures

Prepared by Jean Manning

REVIVAL MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA

**“Do you not know
that your body
is the temple
*of the Holy Spirit
who is in you,
whom you have
from God, and
you are not your
own?”***

1 Corinthians 6:19

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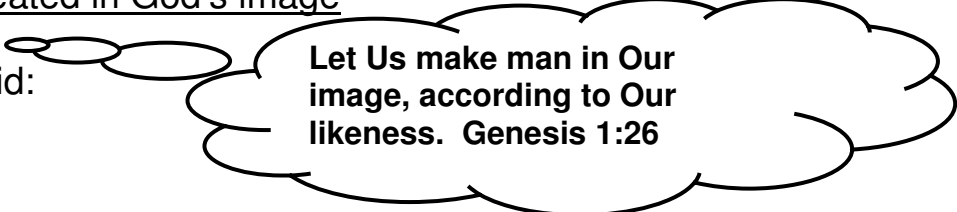
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2. The Temple of the Holy Spirit
3. The wages of Sexual Sin
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THIS BODY IS THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

This body is created by God for His purposes.

(a) Man is created in God's image

Then God said:



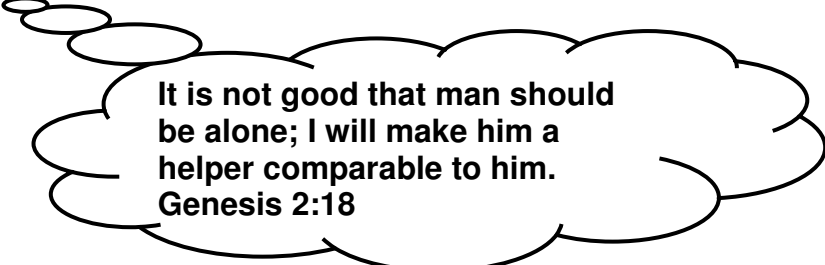
Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness. Genesis 1:26

“So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.” Genesis 1:27

This means that a man or a woman has the ability to make godly choices because we have been created to have the nature of God.

At first a man was alone. God saw the man's need for a companion.

And the LORD God said:



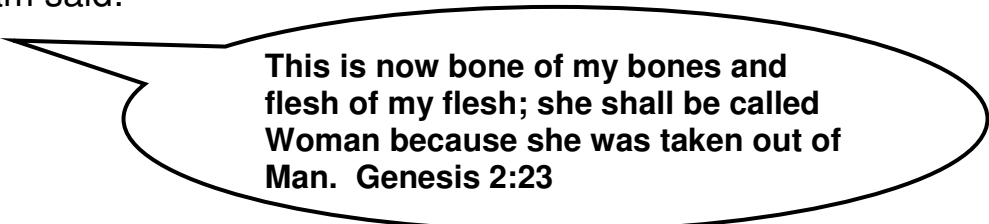
It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him. Genesis 2:18

“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.

Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from the man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.”

Genesis 2:21-22

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. Genesis 2:23

(b) God created both male and female so that there could be a marriage.

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Genesis 2:24

The result of this union between a man and a woman is to bear children.

This is God's plan for the sexual union between a man and his wife.

Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD. Psalm 127:3a

The fruit of the womb is a reward. Psalm 127:3b

(c) God chooses whether we will be male or female.

Read Psalm 139:13-16

v.13 God formed me.

v.14 His work in doing this is marvelous, *"for I am fearfully and wonderfully made"*.

v.15 I wasn't hidden from God while I was in the womb (the secret place).

v.16 God saw me before I was completely formed.

(d) God likes what He has created.

When God saw everything that He had made (Genesis 1:31), we read: *"And indeed it was very good."*

JESUS CHRIST REDEEMS MANKIND.

Man's body, which God created, always belonged to God, the Creator. When man sinned, he gave Satan the right to control him. God sent Jesus Christ to redeem mankind by dying on the cross. When man accepts what Jesus did, he recognizes that his body has been saved from punishment. By His death, Jesus has redeemed mankind and bought back the body that deserved death. Now through the death of Jesus, man's body has been bought back to belong to God. God is very clear that the body of a man belongs to Him.

You are not your own. 1 Corinthians 6:19

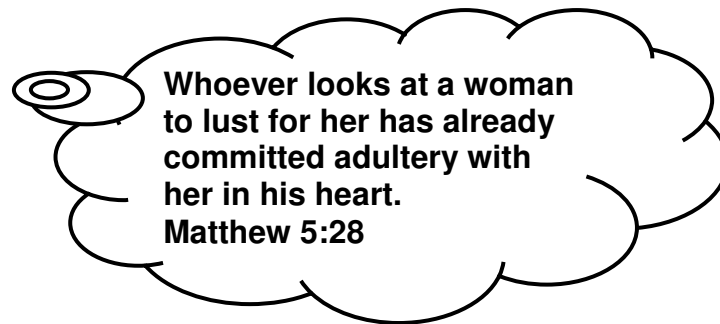
For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Corinthians 6:20

God warns against sexual immorality.

You shall not commit adultery. Exodus 20:14

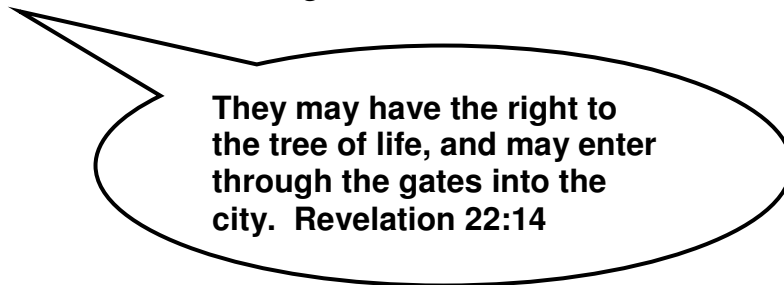
Jesus warns against "adulteries and fornications."
Matthew 15:19

He also says:



The apostle, Paul, warns that those who commit sexual sins – fornicators, adulterers, homosexuals, sodomites – will not inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 6:10

John tells us there is a blessing for those who do the commandments of the Lord.



He warns the sexually immoral, that they will be outside the gates of the heavenly city. Revelation 22:15

Definitions :

Fornication:- From Strong's Concordance 4202 Illicit sexual intercourse, including prostitution.

Adultery:- From Strong's Concordance 3430 Unlawful sexual intercourse, illicit connection with a married person, marital infidelity.

Homosexual:- a person who is sexually attracted to persons of the same sex.

Sodomites :-

In the Bible the people of Sodom were destroyed because of their wicked immorality. Read Genesis 19:1-29.

v.5 gives the details of their depravity in desiring "to have sex" with the angelic men who came to save Lot.

This is the origin of the term "Sodomites".

THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A temple is a sanctuary, a holy place.

In the Bible the temple is the place where God dwells.

“Do you not know you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”

“If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.”

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

Once a man is born again of the Spirit, he lives a life in the spirit. He believes that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God and receives Him as Lord.

Through baptism, the believing man recognizes that he has now died with Christ and has risen to a new life with Christ.

For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection. Romans 6:5

We are no longer slaves of sin.

Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. Romans 6:6

The old flesh life with its desires and lusts is dead.

For he who has died has been freed from sin. Romans 6:7

Christ now lives within.

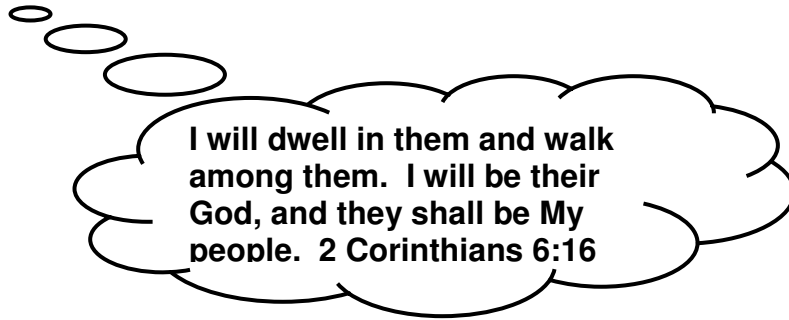
I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Galatians 2:20

This body has become the dwelling place for the Spirit of the Son of God.

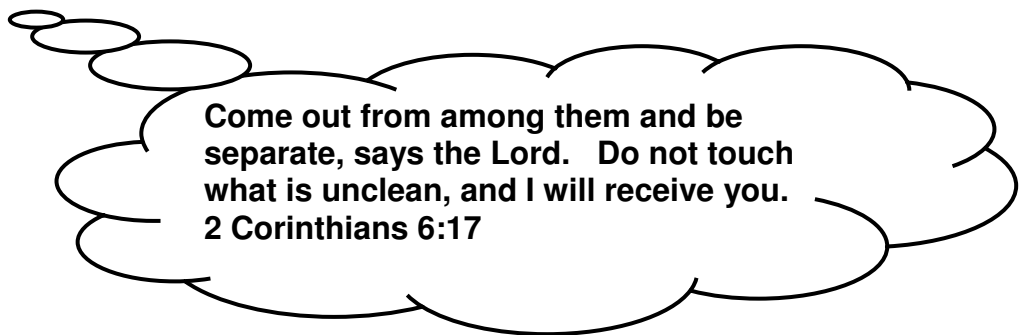
God's call to be holy.

"Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." 2 Corinthians 7:1

The call is to be the temple of the living God, a place where God says:



For this reason, He calls the believing man to be holy, to live a life that is different from the lives of those who give in to their fleshly desires.



So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. Romans 8:8

"For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."

1 Corinthians 3:17

Read 1 Corinthians 6:13-20

The body belongs to the Lord.

Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. v.13

To behave in an immoral way, would link Christ to the immoral act. This is unthinkable!

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! v.15

The believer has become joined to the Lord.

But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. v.17

Sexual immorality is a sin against a man's own body.

Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. v.18

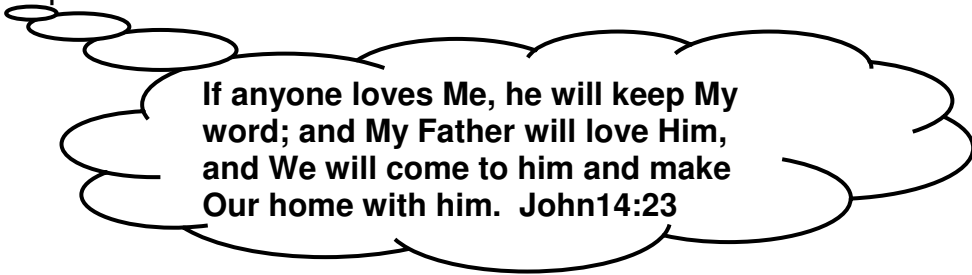
The Holy Spirit who dwells within is from God.

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? v.19

The body belongs to God and man is to glorify God by keeping his body holy and undefiled.

Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. v.20

Jesus has promised:



If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love Him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. John14:23

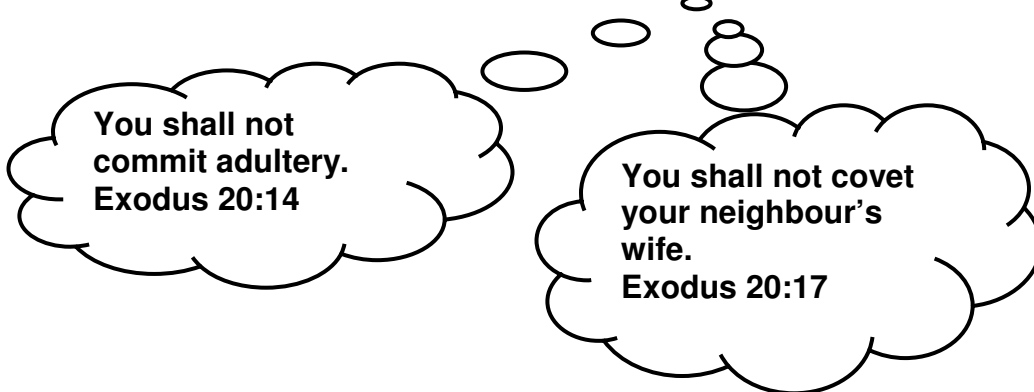
**THIS BODY HAS BECOME THE TEMPLE
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

THE WAGES OF SEXUAL SIN

*“For the wages
of sin
is death.”*

Romans 6:23

When God gave the law to Moses, He commanded:



God had already made His purposes for creating male and female very clear. Genesis 2:24

The book of Leviticus gives very clear laws for sexual morality with instructions about living a holy life.

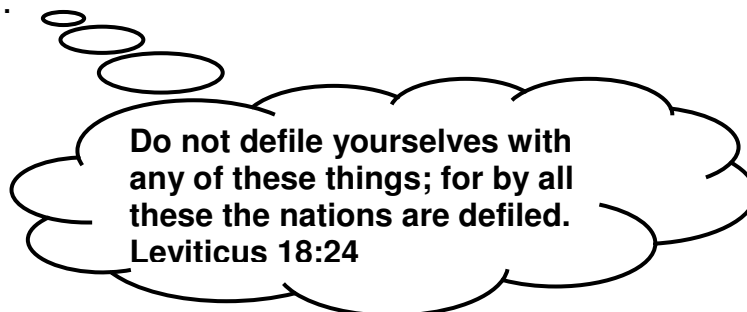
Leviticus 18:1-5 reminds us that God is the LORD and His commands are to be obeyed.

v.6-17 give rules to obey with regard to the sexual sanctity of family members.

- God says “It is a wickedness” to abuse the members of our families sexually. v.17
- God says a man defiles himself when he commits adultery. v.20
- God calls a homosexual relationship “an abomination.” v.22
- Sexual relationship with an animal is “a perversion.” v.23

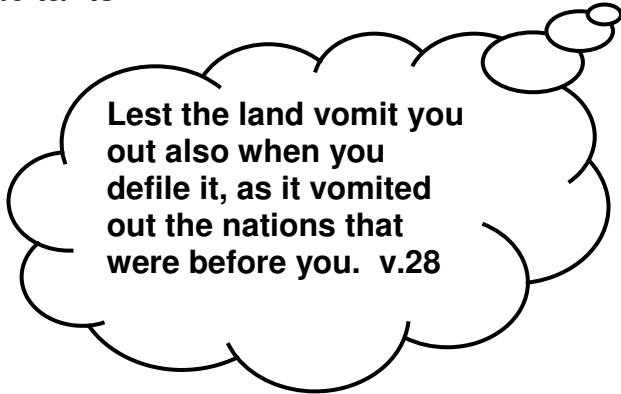
Nations are defiled by the sexual immorality of the people.

God says:



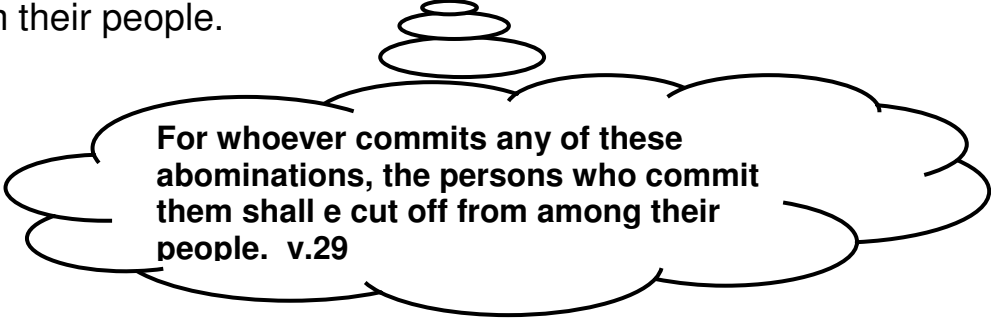
God ordains punishment for these sins.

- He will cast the people out of the land as He cast out the original immoral inhabitants.



Lest the land vomit you out also when you defile it, as it vomited out the nations that were before you. v.28

- Those who commit any of these immoral acts will be cast out from their people.



For whoever commits any of these abominations, the persons who commit them shall be cut off from among their people. v.29

There are warnings in Proverbs 6:24-35 for the man who commits adultery.

Such a man can expect:

- poverty v.26
- scorn v.33
- angry vengeance to come upon him v.34

He is described as:

- worse than a thief v.30
- foolish v.32
- self-destructive v.32

The apostle, Paul, calls sexual sins “vile passions.”

Romans 1:26

For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Romans 1:26

He calls these acts “shameful.”

Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful. Romans 1:27

The result of such acts is:

**They receive in themselves the penalty
of their error which was due.
Romans 1:27**

and

**God gave them over to a debased mind
to do those things which are not fitting.
Romans 1:28**

- “Those who practise such things are deserving of death.” Romans 1:32
- “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolators, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites will inherit the kingdom of God.” 1 Corinthians 6:9-10
- “Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.” 1 Corinthians 6:18
- “Marriage is honourable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.” Hebrews 13:4

**Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they
may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter
through the gates into the city.
But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually
immoral and murderers and idolators, and whoever
loves and practices a lie. Revelation 22:14-15**

“O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?”

I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord!” Romans 7:24-25

*“For the wages of sin is death,
but the gift of God
is eternal life
in Christ Jesus our Lord!”
Romans 6:23*

REMAINING UNDEFINED

1. Obey what God says.

The word of God teaches God's way.

"How can a young man cleanse his way?

"By taking heed according to Your word." Psalm 119:9

2. Remain in fellowship with other believers.

Go after the things of God together with others who love Him.

"Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the name of the Lord out of a pure heart." 2

Timothy 2:22

3. Do not keep company with ungodly men.

God calls us to be His. He cannot look on sin.

"Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you."

2 Corinthians 6:17

4. Submit to God.

Acknowledge that your life is not your own. Jesus is Lord.

"Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

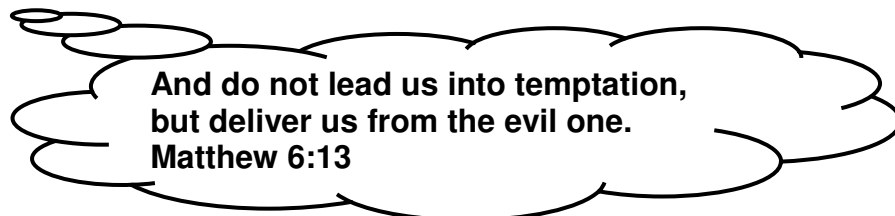
"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded." James 4:7-8

5. Pray.

Jesus warned His disciples to pray because it is so easy to fall into temptation. Man can want to do the right thing, but temptations are strong.

"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matthew 20:41

Jesus said to pray:



HOW DO I OVERCOME TEMPTATION?

Recognise that temptation itself is not the sin. To give in to the temptation is sin.

Read 1 Corinthians 10:13

“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man.”

**God
is
faithful**

**God will not
allow you to be
tempted
beyond what
you are able**

**God will make a way
of escape when
temptation comes**

JESUS HAS ALREADY SHOWN THE WAY TO RESIST TEMPTATION

- He spoke the word of God when the devil tempted Him. Luke 4:4,8,12
- He died on the cross and shed His blood to cleanse mankind from sin and reconcile man to God. We know we are forgiven, therefore the devil cannot accuse us.

Jesus “wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.” Colossians 2:14-15

We recognize that the devil is a defeated enemy. He has been “cast down”. *Revelation 12:10*

Read Revelation 12:11 to see how we overcome him.

**By the
blood of
the Lamb**

**By the word
of our
testimony**

**By not loving
our own lives
even unto death**

GOD IS ABLE TO KEEP US FROM FALLING INTO SIN.

“Now to Him
who is able to keep you from stumbling,
and to present you faultless
before the presence of His glory
with exceeding joy,
to God our Saviour,
who alone is wise,
be glory and majesty,
dominion and power,
both now and forever. Amen”

Jude 24-25

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