

Sermon Study Questions

Sunday, January 14, 2023

1. Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-6
2. Clearly in our text one of the key points Paul is making is that sex in marriage is God's design for sex. Where do you see this in the text?
3. Why might the Corinthians have believed that sexual relations, even in marriage, were sinful or immoral?
4. The issue Paul is addressing here has to do with a belief some held to in the Corinthian church that "it is not good for a man to have sexual relations with a woman." On what basis does Paul say this statement is utter nonsense?
5. What is Paul's solution to the natural, God-given sexual desires most people have?
6. According to Scripture, there are three purposes of sex in marriage. Two of those three purposes are found in our text. What are they? What is the third purpose for it?
7. Paul issues a command to married couples to not deprive one another, but also gives a concession, that by agreement they may abstain for a limited time. Why does Paul give this command and allow a concession?
8. The bottom line principle to the topic of sex in marriage is no different than the bottom line principle to any other topic pertaining to marriage. What is that principle? How does this principle point us to Jesus and to His gospel?
9. What practical application can you make from this text/sermon?
10. Pray!

WLC: 110

Q. 110. What are the reasons annexed to the second commandment, the more to enforce it?

A. The reasons annexed to the second commandment, the more to enforce it, contained in these words, For I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments; are, besides God's sovereignty over us, and propriety in us, his fervent zeal for his own worship, and his revengeful indignation against all false worship, as being a spiritual whoredom; accounting the breakers of this commandment such as hate him, and threatening to punish them into divers generations; and esteeming the observers of it such as love him and keep his commandments, and promising mercy to them unto many generations.

Ex. 20:5-6; Ps. 45:11; Rev. 15:3-4; Ex. 34:13-14; 1 Cor. 10:20-22; Jer. 7:18-20; Ezek. 16:26-27; Deut. 32:16-20; Hos. 2:2-4; Deut. 5:29.

Reading of Law: 1 Peter 5:5-6

Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." ⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you.

Prayer of Confession:

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed by your name. Your kingdom come and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Father, you call us to clothe ourselves with humility towards one another, knowing that you oppose the proud but give grace to the humble. And yet, knowing that you command this of us, we continue to act with pride before those around us. We so often think about ourselves, talk about ourselves, and give preference to ourselves over others, believing deep in our hearts that we are better, more important, or more interesting than others. We confess that we are clothed with pride, and that we don't put much value or effort in seeking to clothe ourselves with humility even though you tell us you oppose the proud but give grace to the humble. Father, please forgive us. And please help us to long to be more like our Savior who provides the ultimate example of humility for us, as He did not consider equality with God a thing to be grasped, but humbled Himself taking on the form of a servant. This is our great example, and we pray that by the gracious working of your Spirit within us, we would seek to emulate it. We thank you for Jesus, for it is because of Him that we are not condemned for our pride, but are forgiven through faith in Him. Thank you. In Jesus' name, Amen.