



**Flee Sexual Immorality!**  
**1 Corinthians 10:6-8, 9-13**  
**#1684 January 31, 2010 AM**  
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I. Introduction

A. Aphrodite: the goddess of sex, love and fertility

B. Aphrodite: A Modern Day god:

1. According to compiled numbers from respected news and research organizations, every second \$3,075.64 is being spent on pornography. Every second 28,258 internet users are viewing pornography. In that same second 372 internet users are typing adult search terms into search engines. Every 39 minutes a new pornographic video is being created in the U.S.

It's big business. The pornography industry has larger revenues than Microsoft, Google, Amazon, eBay, Yahoo, Apple and Netflix combined. 2006 Worldwide Pornography Revenues ballooned to \$97.06.<sup>1</sup>

2. Note other statistics.<sup>2</sup>

II. Proposition

A. Do not walk in sexual immorality, for the sexually immoral will not inherit the kingdom of God.

III. Exposition

A. **Those who persist in sexual immorality will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

1. Sexual immorality is a broad term encompassing every kind of unlawful, perverted sexual intercourse.

a. It is a work of the flesh, and it is evidence of being led by the cravings of the flesh (Gal. 5:19).

1). Examples: incest (1 Cor. 5:1); prostitution (1 Cor. 6:12-20); adultery (Matt. 5:32; 19:9). . .

2. Those who persist in sexual immorality will be judged and excluded from heaven (Rev. 21:7-8; 22:10-15).

3. How can you know if sex is an idol for you?
  - a. Does sex occupy your mind/heart more than God does (i.e., porn, lust, self-satisfaction, stalking)?
    - 1). Are you consumed with the physical beauty that this world requires for companionship?
      - a). Ladies do you spend an hour before the mirror but only 5 minutes before God?
      - b). Men/ladies do you spend hours at the gym to the neglect of Christ, His body?
  - b. Do you value sex more than God?
    - 1). Are you willing to spend money for sexual satisfaction (pornography, prostitution)?
    - 2). Do you become angry when you don't receive sexual satisfaction?
    - 3). Do you manipulate people in order to obtain sex?
  - c. Do you live for sex?
    - 1). Are you driven to be sexually satisfied no matter what the cost and how many get hurt?
  - d. Do you seek satisfaction in sex instead of finding satisfaction in Christ?
    - 1). Are you always in search of the ultimate sexual experience no matter how crude, sinful?
    - 2). Is it possible that your sexual immorality isn't even about sex?
    - 3). Are you sexually immoral because you are angry at God for not providing a spouse?
    - 4). Are you sexually immoral because you are angry at your spouse for not satisfying you?
4. Be warned! The sexually immoral will not inherit the kingdom of God!

**B. Therefore, abstain from and flee sexual immorality!**

1. The Bible clearly calls us to abstain from (fight) and flee from sexual immorality (1 Thess. 4:3).
  - a. 1 Corinthians 10:8 (Numbers 25:1-9); cf. Acts 15:20, 29; 21:25 – the Jerusalem council
  - b. 1 Corinthians 6:13, 15-16, 18 – flee sexual immorality!
    - 1). Sexual immorality is not even to be named among believers (Eph. 5:3).

2. Sexual immorality is destructive – think of the sacrifices we make to the substitute god of sex.
  - a. Marriage (adultery/extended singleness), children (born/unborn), \$\$, careers, ministries, the gospel.
  - b. Satisfying sex with spouse – sexual past distorts sexual present and future.
    - 1). Singles – present sexual activity distorts true love, beauty and satisfaction in future spouse
  - c. The ultimate sacrifice is your own soul (Matt. 5:27-30).
  
3. How are we to abstain from and flee sexual immorality? Not in our own strength and power!
  - a. Sexual immorality is a powerful tool used by God’s enemies to lure us away to destruction (Rev. 2:20-23; 17:1-2; 18:1-3).
    - 1). Sex in the world: pornography, music and entertainment, . . .
    - 2). Moralistic approaches may seem be helpful, but they are not strong enough to battle the cravings we have permitted. They only deal with symptoms and cannot, do not get to the root of the problem.
    - 3). Accountability partners; internet filters; etc.
  - b. It is a problem of the heart: sexual immorality originates in OUR own heart (Matt. 15:19).
    - 1). The decent into craving, idolatry and sexual immorality (James 1:13-15).
      - a). Pornography: It may begin with something as simple as a store catalog . . .
      - b). Adultery: It may begin with something as simple as a friendship/work relation/fb
      - c). Single Sex: It may begin with something as simple as a night out/ a kiss . . .
      - d). Homosexuality: It may begin with exploration . . .
      - e). Pedophilia (child abuse): it may begin with frustrated sexual desires . . .
    - c. What we need more than anything else is a new heart; we need Christ (Ezekiel 36:25-27)!

**C. God is faithful to sustain us and provide a way out or through the temptation.**

1. God is faithful to provide a way out or through temptation so that our faith would not be crushed (10:13).

- a. First, understand that these temptations are common to all (10:13a).
  - b. Second, know that God will provide a way out of or through the temptation (10:13b).
    - 1). He has provided Christ. Freedom from sin comes through knowing & loving Christ.
    - 2). He also provides other means by which we may endure temptation and escape sin.
2. What are some means God provides for His people as a way out or through temptation?
- a. Warnings (His Word): God is faithful to warn us!
    - 1). That is how these types/examples function: instruction/admonition (10:6, 11).
      - a). We need to read the word and understand it and apply it and learn (10:12)!
  - b. Promises (His Word): God is faithful to promise what is more satisfying than sin.
    - 1). We put to death the desires of the flesh by faith in the promises (2 Peter 1:3-4).
      - a). The promise of marriage (Genesis 2:18ff.).
    - 2). Therefore, we must know God's Word, both the warnings and the promises!
  - c. His Spirit: God is faithful to provide His Spirit.
    - 1). We are empowered by the Spirit to walk in a manner worthy of the gospel (Gal. 5:16-26).
  - d. Marriage: God has instituted marriage, in part, to protect from the temptation to sexual immorality (1 Cor. 7:2).
    - 1). Marriage is THE ONLY place where sexual passions are to be satisfied.
  - e. His Church: the church fights for us, encourages us and holds us accountable.
    - 1). We are to encourage and forgive one another (Col. 3:12-17)
      - a). Ladies – modesty is a BIG issue!
      - b). Men – don't be flirtatious!
    - 2). The church is not to tolerate sexual immorality; it must exclude from fellowship those who persist in sexual immorality (1 Cor. 5:1-13; cf. Rev. 2:14).

3. God is faithful to provide ways out or through temptation through Christ!

#### IV. Conclusion

##### A. Do you believe?

1. Ed Welch: “In Romans 1, the apostle Paul says that we all know many things about God and his law, but we suppress those truths when they interfere with our wants and desires. As a result, it is as if we practice two different religions. We believe one thing, but we *really* believe another. One set of beliefs says that Jesus is the Son of God who has risen from the dead. He is Lord, and he deserves our devotion and obedience. The other says that we prefer a certain degree of independence in our lives” (*Addictions*, 8).

2. “How can you detect these false beliefs?” Again Ed Welch: “Start by looking at the things you do in private. Do you live very differently in private than you do in public? Do you permit your imagination to indulge itself in ungodly fantasies? If so, even though you know that God sees everything, you are experimenting with an alternative theology that says that there are some places where God can’t find you” (*Addictions*, 8).

3. Identify and expose your idols! You must be willing to ask the hard questions of yourself!

4. Confess your idolatry; turn away from your idols and replace them with Christ!

- a. Only Christ satisfies!

##### B. Look to Christ in faith and be satisfied with Him and you shall be free from sin and temptation!

1. Believe God is faithful to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (Rev. 22:10-17).

- a. God is the only one who can make a beautiful, holy bride out of prostitutes (Hos. 1-3).

- 1). It doesn’t matter what your sexual past is!

2. Believe who you are in Christ (1 Cor. 6:9-10).

- a. Don’t let Satan tell you that you are too stained, or too far gone (1 John 1:9)!

3. Forgive those who have hurt and violated you!

- a. Some of you are sexually confused or your sexual lives are distorted because of abuse.

- 1). ILLUS: Ridgecrest

- 2). Homosexuality

- b. The God who is faithful to receive prostitutes and all the sexually immoral through the death of His Son on the cross is the God who grants us the grace to forgive others.

C. Remember what God is doing – Ephesians 5:25ff!

1. One day, you will be escorted down the aisle in all white and holiness and given to Christ our groom!

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