

**“YOUR BODY IS FOR
THE LORD”**
1 Corinthians 6:13-20

INTRODUCTION

There is a discipline and self-governance of our bodies that is required of believers in order to be Christ-like. Sexual temptations are some of the hardest to deal with. Prior to Christianity, Platonism and Gnosticism were prevalent. With that thinking, the entire material world was evil, beyond saving. Today, many think we are here by blind cosmic chance. The scripture, however, states that there is a purpose for each of us, along with a God-designed morality of right and wrong!

MEATS FOR THE BELLY

In Corinth they were greatly influenced by an indulgent style. “Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats” (v.13). Obviously we need to eat, but we need to exercise some discipline as well. The Corinthians were driven by appetites for food, passion and sex. They looked to satisfy every desire in every aspect of life. They felt that sexual relations were only as important as the culture made it. That was man’s wisdom. God sees things in the eternal realm. His ways are much better than ours!

THE BODY IS FOR THE LORD

We have been given bodies to use for His glory. Our bodies are highly valued by God. How we use them is important to Him. Today’s secular society devalues the body and feels it can do what it wishes in that area. The emphasis has turned to feelings rather than morality. Even kindergarteners are now being taught that their bodies aren’t important, but feelings are. This is just a reemergence of Gnosticism.

Jesus had a body (**Hebrews 10:5**). He was raised from the dead and so will all other believers! (v.14) That is the most amazing thing He will do with our bodies!

It seems that some in Corinth were engaging with the temple prostitutes of Aphrodite. (v.15-17) This practice actually represented an idolatrous union that was taking place. Our most intimate unity should not be physical, but spiritual with the Lord!

FLEE IT!

Sexual immorality can take a toll. Sexual sins in “private” can have public repercussions such as rape, incest, STDs, abortion, trafficking, molestation, pornography, divorce, as well as the related emotional scars. Billions of dollars of taxpayer money are spent dealing with the repercussions of divorce and unwed childbearing. While sexual immorality is not a greater sin, it can have greater implications and consequences than others.

We can’t have a disconnect between what we believe and what we do! Our bodies were made for habitation of the Holy Spirit. We were bought with a price, by the blood of Jesus!

CONSIDER

There is a battle for our souls and bodies. Some have fallen to sexual temptation, like Samson, when he thought he could handle it. That’s relying on the arm of the flesh. There will be a redemption of our bodies!

There are those in the lineage of Jesus that were guilty of sexual sins, such as Tamar, Rahab and Bathsheba. Jesus spoke with kindness to the woman at the well, **John 4**. He was also gentle with the woman taken in adultery, “...**Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.**” **John 8:11**.

What areas of excess are we guilty of? Are we constantly sowing to the flesh? The redeeming power of Jesus can help break the cycle of sin. He wants to restore us to live fully for Him and not be servants of our flesh! Allow Him to do His transforming work!

PRAY

- * for the Pastors’ Conference. Rest and encouragement for those who are in the battle.
- * for Calvary Chapel Academy and the School of Ministry. May their students fall in love with You!
- * for the Men’s Retreat at LeTourneau, that men would be strengthened to stand for our Lord.
- * for the Women’s’ Retreat, “The Way Home”. May the Lord save and deliver those who have been running from Him!