

Flee Fornication

In contrast to society, Christians are commanded to flee fornication

Is God Pleased With These Behaviors Society Approves?

1. Teenagers and adults engaging in casual premarital and extramarital sex
2. Unmarried couples living together
3. Spouses committing adultery
4. Unscriptural divorce and remarriage resulting in adulterous marriages
5. Pornography, prostitution, sex slavery
6. Homosexuality

2

Beware Society Corrupting Our Stand Against Fornication

- Rather than tolerating or justifying various forms of fornication, Christians are to flee fornication
- Specific teaching is required on fornication instead of silence or general teaching
- Specific conduct required of individual Christians as well as local churches to help all to flee fornication

3

Beware Society Corrupting Our Stand Against Fornication

- If we are to flee fornication, we must learn to flee those things that lead to fornication such as uncontrolled lust, covetousness and other corrupt thinking
- This can only happen when we allow God's Word to transform our thinking and character to reflect His image
- We should want to flee fornication ourselves and teach our children, brethren and the world to flee fornication also

4

Flee Fornication

1. What is fornication?
2. What is society's view toward fornication?
3. What are some of the consequences of fornication?
4. What is God's view of fornication?
5. How should we as Christians view and respond to fornication?

5

What is Fornication?

porneia

1) illicit sexual intercourse

1a) adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, intercourse with animals etc.

1b) sexual intercourse with close relatives; Lev. 18

1c) sexual intercourse with a divorced man or woman; Mar 10:11, Mar 10:12

6

What is Fornication?

- 2) metaphorically the worship of idols
- 2a) of the defilement of idolatry, as incurred by eating the sacrifices offered to idols

From Thayer's Greek Definitions

7

What is Fornication?

- Porneia translated fornication in NKJV and ASV
- Translated sexual immorality, immorality, immoralities, unchastity, fornication and fornications in NASB
- General term inclusive of all sexual sins, all sexual relations outside of lawful Scriptural marriage

8

Fornication Includes

1. Adultery
2. Incest
3. Bestiality (sexual relations with animals)
4. Homosexuality
5. Premarital sexual relations
6. Men and women living together having sexual relations without being Scripturally married
7. Unscriptural adulterous marriages

9

What Is Society's View Toward Fornication?

1. Natural
2. Normal
3. If most are doing it, it must be good as long as you don't hurt anyone

10

What Is Society's View Toward Fornication?

- Although fornication is widely approved in our society, God does not follow society's lead
- Corinth widely known for practice of fornication even to the extent of being a part of religious worship with prostitutes in the Temple of Venus
- Before looking at God's view on fornication, let's look at some of the destructive consequences

11

What Society Accepts God Rejects

Luk 16:14 Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, were listening to all these things and were scoffing at Him.

Luk 16:15 And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God.

12

Fornication Corrupts Our Hearts and Character

Mat 15:17 "Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and is eliminated?"

Mat 15:18 "But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man."

13

Fornication Corrupts Our Hearts and Character

Mat 15:19 "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders."

Mat 15:20 "These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man."

14

Fornication Destroys Our Bodies

Rom 1:25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Rom 1:26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,

15

Fornication Destroys Our Bodies

Rom 1:27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

16

Fornication Destroys Our Bodies

- Spread of both bacterial and viral STDs (sexually transmitted diseases)
- Some of these like AIDS are incurable
- Idea of "safe" sex is a lie which endangers our physical and spiritual health

17

Fornication Destroys Families

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Luk 16:18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery."

18

Fornication Destroys Families

Mat 18:5 "And whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me;

Mat 18:6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

19

Fornication Destroys Families

Pro 6:30 Men do not despise a thief if he steals To satisfy himself when he is hungry;

Pro 6:31 But when he is found, he must repay sevenfold; He must give all the substance of his house.

Pro 6:32 The one who commits adultery with a woman is lacking sense; He who would destroy himself does it.

20

Fornication Destroys Families

Pro 6:33 Wounds and disgrace he will find, And his reproach will not be blotted out.

Pro 6:34 For jealousy enrages a man, And he will not spare in the day of vengeance.

Pro 6:35 He will not accept any ransom, Nor will he be satisfied though you give many gifts.

21

Fornication Destroys Families

2Sa 13:14 However, he would not listen to her; since he was stronger than she, he violated her and lay with her.

2Sa 13:15 Then Amnon hated her with a very great hatred; for the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, "Get up, go away!"

22

Fornication Destroys Nations

Pro 14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a disgrace to *any* people.

23

Most Importantly Fornication Separates Us From God

- God is not pleased with fornication
- He declares it to be sin, against His Divine Law
- Like all sins, if we commit fornication and do not repent of it and receive God's forgiveness, we have no hope of eternal life

24

Most Importantly Fornication Separates Us From God

1Co 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,
1Co 6:10 nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

25

God Calls Us To Repent of All Sins Including Fornication

1Co 6:11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.
Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

26

God Calls Us To Repent of All Sins Including Fornication

Act 8:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

27

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28

What Is God's View Of Fornication?

- Although fornication is pleasing to society, God defines it as sinful, against His Law
- Continuing in sin including fornication without repenting toward God will cause us to be lost

29

Fornication, Along With All Sins Brings God's Wrath

Eph 5:3 But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints;
Eph 5:4 and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

30

Fornication, Along With All Sins Brings God's Wrath

Eph 5:5 For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

31

All Christians Are To Flee Fornication

1Co 6:18 Flee immorality. Every *other* sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

1Co 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

1Co 6:20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

32

Must First Become A Christian

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

33

Be Transformed To A Living Sacrifice By God's Word Renewing Our Minds

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which* is your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

34

Specifically What Is Involved In Fleeing Fornication?

1. Make our members dead to fornication and all things leading to fornication
2. Pursue righteous life which includes sexual purity

35

Make Our Members Dead To Fornication and All Things Leading To Fornication

Mat 5:28 but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

36

Make Our Members Dead To Fornication
and All Things Leading To Fornication

2Ti 2:20 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.

2Ti 2:21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these *things*, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

37

Make Our Members Dead To
Fornication and All Things Leading To
Fornication

2Ti 2:22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love *and* peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

38

Make Our Members Dead To
Fornication and All Things Leading To
Fornication

Col 3:5 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

39

Make Our Members Dead To
Fornication and All Things Leading To
Fornication

Gal 5:19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

Gal 5:20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

40

Make Our Members Dead To
Fornication and All Things Leading To
Fornication

Gal 5:21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

41

Make Our Members Dead To
Fornication and All Things Leading To
Fornication

1. Impurity NASB, uncleanness NKJV, ASV
2. Passion NASB, NKJV, ASV
3. Evil desire, NASB, NKJV, ASV
4. Greed, NASB, covetousness, NKJV, ASV
5. Sensuality, NASB, lewdness, NKJV, ASV
6. Idolatry, NASB, NKJV, ASV

42

Make Our Members Dead To Fornication and All Things Leading To Fornication

1. Immodest dress
2. Pornography
3. Suggestive music and movies
4. Passionate kissing and embracing
5. Modern dancing
6. Sinful communications by Internet, cell phones or other ways
7. Parties promoting fornication

43

Pursue God's Way of Escape

Mat 26:41 "Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

1Co 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

44

Pursue Righteous Life Which Includes Sexual Purity

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal 5:23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Gal 5:24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

45

Pursue Scriptural Marriage

1Co 7:1 Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is good for a man not to touch a woman.

1Co 7:2 But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband.

46

Pursue Scriptural Marriage

Mat 19:4 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,

Mat 19:5 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'?

47

Pursue Righteous Life Which Includes Sexual Purity

Mat 19:6 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

48

End All Unscriptural Marriages

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Luk 16:18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery."

49

End All Living In Fornication

1Co 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

1Co 6:10 nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

50

End All Parties Encouraging Sinful Living

1Pe 4:3 For the time already past is sufficient *for you* to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable idolatries.

1Pe 4:4 In *all* this, they are surprised that you do not run with *them* into the same excesses of dissipation, and they malign *you*;

51

As A Local Church, Stand Against Those Who Do Not Repent of Fornication

1Co 5:1 It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

1Co 5:2 You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed would be removed from your midst.

52

As A Local Church, Stand Against Those Who Do Not Repent of Fornication

1Co 5:4 In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are assembled, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus,

1Co 5:5 *I have decided* to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

53

As A Local Church, Stand Against Those Who Do Not Repent of Fornication

1Co 5:6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump *of dough*?

1Co 5:11 But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler--not even to eat with such a one.

54

As Christians, Let Us Be Willing To Repent of All Sins Including Fornication

Act 8:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

Heb 13:4 Marriage *is to be held* in honor among all, and the *marriage* bed *is to be* undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

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