

SEX, GOD AND FAMILIES

WHAT IS THE CONNECTION?

Our society has forgotten an essential factor in its pursuit of sexual pleasure. That factor is Jehovah God, who created our ancestors 'male and female'. He deliberately created sexuality, and knowing what a powerful force it was, formulated laws to help us have fulfilling and joyful sexual relations. He also laid the foundations for successful family living. Sadly, few people know and apply His laws, which has resulted in widespread unhappiness and epidemics of sexually transmitted diseases. Even now, people are urged to disobey His teachings in the name of misguided 'sexual liberty.' Let us look at the results of some of these liberal programs, which are often justified with distortions and lies:

IS 'SAFE SEX' SAFE?

Condoms have been promoted as an effective method of preventing the spread of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. But how effective are condoms? How successful has the 'Safe Sex' message been at curtailing the spread of these diseases and reducing the number of unwanted pregnancies? Has it helped create a happier and more stable society?

'Safe Sex' campaigns have **not** stopped the spread of AIDS and other STDs. The reasons are quite simple. Condoms, at best, merely reduce your chances of contracting AIDS. They are not a guaranteed preventative. The illusion of safety seduces the misinformed into risking intercourse which they might have otherwise refused, increasing their exposure to AIDS. Others, although aware of the risks, choose not to use condoms to avoid offending their partners or diminishing their own sexual satisfaction.

The HIV virus which causes AIDS is only 1/25th the width of a sperm cell. It is so tiny that minute pores which commonly occur in condoms allow

the virus to pass through. This was tragically demonstrated by studies of married couples in which one partner was infected with HIV. Within two years, one study found 10% of the partners were also infected with HIV, despite using condoms for protection (D.R. Mishell, "Contraception", *The New England Journal of Medicine*, Vol 320, 1989, pgs 777-787). A similar study by the University of Miami Medical School found that 17% of the partners were infected in a year and a half (Dr. Margaret Fischl, *AMA Journal*, 1987). The risk involved in using condoms for protection from HIV is no better than the risk of getting killed playing Russian Roulette. (A 'game' using a revolving six-shot pistol where one of the chambers contains a live bullet.) Would you play Russian Roulette, or encourage your children to take a similar risk?

It is no wonder that when Dr. Theresa Crenshaw asked a conference of 800 sexologists (at Heidelberg, Germany - 1987) if they would have intercourse with the HIV-infected partner of their dreams while using a condom for protection, **not one** of them said they would. Yet this practise is urged on others and called 'Safe Sex'.

Though there are now expensive drugs which can delay the onset of AIDS, there is still no cure for AIDS. It is always eventually fatal. AIDS, though the most deadly, is only one of many sexually transmitted diseases. Pelvic inflammatory disease, syphilis, gonorrhoea, human papilloma virus, chlamydia and herpes are all spreading rapidly. Strains of many of these diseases are now resistant to antibiotics. Some of these STDs cause lifelong infertility and pain. Clearly the Safe Sex programs have at best reduced the rate of increase of some STD infections. At worst, they are encouraging the continuation of practices that have lead to these epidemics in the first place.

UNWANTED PREGNANCY

Sex education has also failed in its aim of reducing pregnancies among teenagers. Despite extensive high school programs, teenage pregnancies are increasing. One reason for this is that these programs often convey the concepts that 'sex outside of marriage is OK' and 'if you are careful you won't get pregnant.' In this way they reinforce the immoral behaviour displayed on television. Many surveys have found that adolescents say peer pressure is the main reason they try sexual intercourse.

Some government 'sex education' programs increase the pressure on

teens to say yes by making contraceptives available. This removes a powerful argument against intercourse from those who do not want premarital sex. As no contraceptives are 100% effective, this increase in sexual activity exacts its price. Condoms, for example, have a failure rate as high as 36% among teenagers. Commonly, the unfortunate young woman who becomes pregnant is urged by “family planning” clinics to have an abortion, thus becoming a partner in the murder of her own child. Often her parents are not told that she is pregnant and therefore are unable to help her when she is especially vulnerable. One should also remember that these unborn children are special to God as each first-born child is His (Exodus 13:1 & 13).

ABORTION

Rape and fetal abnormality are sometimes used to justify abortion. These reasons account for less than 2% of all abortions and still violate the sacredness of human life (Genesis 1:26-27). The vast majority of abortions are performed merely for the parents’ convenience. But there are always consequences. For example, 90% of the abortions performed within a marriage lead to marriage breakdown within three months. The yet to be born child is given no choice (or chance) at all. God says anyone who kills an unborn child -even accidentally in a fight- deserves to die (Exodus 21:22-25).

PROMISCUITY AND MARRIAGE

Some people claim premarital intercourse is a good way to develop sexual techniques and/or a good way to find out if you are sexually compatible before marriage. Such claims are based on destructive fantasies. Pre-marital sex is often not fulfilling, especially for women. It has little in common with intercourse within a caring, stable relationship. Furthermore, numerous studies show that having sexual intercourse before marriage increases the probability the marriage will end in divorce. (eg. a study by Helen Glezer, *Australian Institute of Family Studies*, 1992, found that people who had cohabited with someone before marriage had double the divorce rate of those who did not.)

Contrary to popular opinion, many young people do not have premarital intercourse. It is disappointing that supposedly responsible people

undermine their stand with the 'safe sex' message. Instead of supporting these young people, they pretend that their acceptance of sexual immorality is only being "non-judgmental".

GOD'S SEXUAL LAWS

The vital fact often forgotten in sexual counselling is that sexuality is part of God's Creation. He decided to make sex pleasurable and decreed laws about how sex should be practised to prevent abuse and perversion.

His Law is the only approach to sexuality that is completely effective in preventing needless pain and suffering. The basics of His Law is also very simple. **No sexual intercourse outside of a heterosexual marriage. Both partners should make a great effort to please their spouse once they are married.**

God's laws of sexual morality are outlined in the following key scriptures:

You shall not commit adultery. Exodus 20:14

You shall not desire your neighbour's house; you shall not desire your neighbour's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbour's. Exodus 20:17

Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

1 Corinthians 7:3 to 5

Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as to the Lord. Because the husband is head of the wife, as also the Christ is head of the church; and He is the Saviour of the body. But as

the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives to their own husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself on behalf of it. Ephesians 5:22 to 25

Marriage is honourable among all, and the bed undefiled; but God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Hebrews 13:4

CHILDREN AND PARENTS

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with a promise: "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."

And you, fathers, do not provoke your children, but nurture them in the discipline and admonition of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:1 to 4

And you shall love Jehovah your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might, and these words which I command you today shall be on your heart; you shall point them out to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up.

You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as a frontlet between your eyes. Deuteronomy 6:5 to 8

But if anyone does not provide for *his* own, and especially for *his* family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. 1 Timothy 5:8

DIVORCE

The Pharisees approached Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for every reason?"

He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,'

and said, 'For the sake of this a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So that they are no longer two but one flesh. Thus what God has joined together, let man not separate."

They said to Him, "Then why did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?"

He said to them, "Moses, because of your hardheartedness, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for fornication, and marries another, commits adultery; and he who marries her *who* is divorced commits adultery."

Matthew 19:3 to 9

CHILD ABUSE, RAPE AND PORNOGRAPHY

Police involved in child abuse and rape cases find that in nearly all incidents, the crimes are preceded by a history of using pornographic magazines, videos, etc. which feed the offender's deviant fantasies.

There is no evidence that pornography is beneficial to anyone, yet it is readily available to those who are enslaved by its destructive illusions. This is not freedom, but is social insanity.

Jesus reveals the depravity of this entire industry by teaching us it is wrong to even look at a woman to lust for her (Matthew 5:28).

God also condemns incest (Leviticus 18:6) and rape (Deuteronomy 22:23-29).

HOMOSEXUALITY

For the invisible aspects of Him are clearly seen from the creation of the world through the things *He* made, both His eternal power and divinity, so they are without excuse, because, having known God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were *they* thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into a likeness, an image of corruptible man and birds and four-footed beasts and reptiles.

Therefore God also gave them up in the lusts of their hearts

to uncleanness, to dishonour their bodies among themselves, who changed the truth of God into the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creating One, who is blessed for all ages. Amen.

Because of this God gave them up to vile passions. Even their women changed the natural use to that against nature. Likewise also the men, forsaking the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing shameful acts, and receiving back in themselves the reward which fitted their deviation.

And even as they did not think it right to keep God in their knowledge, God gave them up to a debased mind, to do those things which are not right; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil habits; *they are* whisperers, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those practicing such things are worthy of death, not only do them, but also approve of those who practice *them*. Romans 1:20 to 32

PROSTITUTION

Do not prostitute your daughter, to cause her to be a harlot, lest the land fall into harlotry, and the land become full of wickedness. Leviticus 19:29

There shall be no harlot among Israel's daughters, nor a homosexual among the sons of Israel.

You shall not bring the hire of a harlot or the price of a dog into the house of Jehovah your God for any vow, for both of these are an abomination to Jehovah your God.

Deuteronomy 23:17 & 18

My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes watch my ways. For a harlot is a deep pit, and a seductress is a narrow

well. She surely lies in wait for a victim, and she increases the unfaithful among men. Proverbs 23:26 to 28

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Having then taken the members of Christ, shall I make them members of a harlot? Let it not be *so!* Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body *with her?* For He says, "The two will become one flesh." 1 Corinthian 6:15 & 16

GOD'S WARNING AND MERCY

...Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you that tax collectors and harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him; but tax collectors and the harlots believed him; and you, seeing it, did not afterwards regret it and believe him.

Matthew 21:31 & 32

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

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idol worshippers, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor greedy, nor drunkards, nor slanderers, nor extortioners will inherit the Kingdom of God.

And some of you *were* these things. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

I Corinthians 6:18, 6:9-11

If all people obeyed God's simple, clear sexual laws, there would be no AIDS epidemic, no STDs, no unwed pregnancies, no prostitution, no rape, no abortions, no paedophiles, no homosexuals and few divorces and teenage suicides.

Men and women would have the joy of being joined to their spouse in a pure and undefiled condition. Children would have the joy of growing up

with a mother and father who loved each other and cared deeply for them. As God says, **His laws are for our good**, to show us the way to true and lasting happiness. (Deuteronomy 6:24) The destruction caused by a few minutes of immoral passion is far too great.

If you have not taken God's path, it is not too late to change. God loves you and, through Jesus, He is willing to forgive you, even of murder. He is able to cleanse you, change you and help you start again. You only have to ask Him...

The Central Highlands Christian Publications translation of the Bible is used throughout this booklet. We believe our version is an accurate translation of the Scriptures. God's Word is sacred, and translations should not be slanted to suit the beliefs of the translators.

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