Sex Series 1: Marriage is Honorable sermon for 3-05-17

The Christian approach to life is incredibly simple compared to the complexities of a worldly, sinful mindset because it is restricted to a stable code that provides peace during every change and unexpected dilemma.

When there is submission in the soul to the belief of the goodness of God and the authority of the Scriptures, there is opportunity for rest and hope.

Today, sexual experts and our culture are desperate for answers to sexual questions.

* “Why do people experience same-sex attraction?”
* “Why is it wrong to want sex with children?”
* “Is it healthy for someone to have multiple sex partners?”
* “Why do some people experience almost impossible battles with their disappointment that they were born a certain sex?”
* “How do I love people who deal with different sexual struggles than what I deal with?”
* “If we are all animals, why is it wrong to have sex with non-humans?”

The list goes on ad nauseum…

And while I am not opposed to answering those questions, I see a problem with our culture’s response to these questions.

Since we as Americans have generally kicked out the idea that the Bible has legitimate answers to these questions, we have decided that people can answer these questions through unceasing discussion, research, and democracy.

The world has decided that man can decide what’s best sexually for himself.

I truly believe that the world has reached this conclusion simply because it does not like the Bible’s answers. The Bible is too simple and therefore, too restrictive.

So mankind casts off the restraints of the Bible and seeks its own answers.

This worship of man sounds great until you see that it only leads to confusion and emotional, physical, spiritual, and societal harm.

I offer peace. I offer stability. I offer the unchanging principles of the Creator.

**Hebrews 13:4** (NKJV)

**4**Marriage *is* honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

## “Marriage *is* honorable among all”

Honored = worth great price; highly respected and cherished

All = honorable in every aspect or part of the marriage.

**Every part of the marriage relationship—the spiritual journey, friendship, partnership, and sex—is worthy of paying a great price to develop and is to be cherished equally.**

What are the diff parts of marriage?

* The Spiritual Journey
* The Friendship
* The Partnership
  + Financial
  + Household work
  + Parenting
* The Sex

## “the bed undefiled”

Bed = your sex life

The marriage bed is not defiled…

**Human sexual activity is only pure between a man and a woman who are married to each other; all other sexual activity is stained with sin rendering it deformed, debased, and impaired.**

What defiles the bed?

Undefiled = *amiantos*

* "not defiled, unsoiled; free from that by which the nature of a thing is deformed and debased, or its force and vigor impaired"

**Whatever deforms or debases the sex life God planned for you to have is defilement.**

* Adultery
* Pre-marital sexual activity
* Pornography
* Fantasies
* Domination
  + Any manipulation
    - Abstaining from the other to punish.
    - Guilt trips full of sarcasm and immaturity
    - Using the Bible to manipulate
  + Any positions or sexual acts with the motivation to dominate or humiliate.
  + Attitude of domination.
* Unkindness
  + Abstaining from the other for selfish reasons.
  + Critical attitude and words towards the partner
* Unnatural sex
  + Masturbation
  + Anal Sex

**The power of sex is the power to commune with your spouse in a most vulnerable, deep, and healing way.**

* All defilement of the sex life whether in or outside of marriage leaves us guarded, shallow, and hurt.
  + It doesn’t always seem that way, but underneath the service, sin is growing larger in us slowly producing death.

**Marriage by itself does not protect the sex-life from defilement; sex inside of marriage must be cherished and kept pure.**

**In a God-honoring, healthy marriage, the sex-life honors God and brings health that blesses every part of life; in a self-honoring, unhealthy marriage, the sex-life (or lack thereof) honors self and brings disease that pollutes every part of life.**

## “fornicators and adulterers God will judge”

We will clarify and cover fornication and adultery in next week’s sermon called “50 Shades or Black and White?” in much greater detail.

But for now here’s the general definition of the two words…

* Fornicators are every person who has engaged or is engaging in any sexual activity that God disapproves of.
* Adulterers are every married person who has engaged or is engaging in sexual activity with anyone other than their spouse.

**Every person who has sinned or is sinning sexually will be judged and punished by God.**

**Every person who has sinned sexually but believes in Jesus to take their sin upon Himself and turns from their sexual immorality will be judged and rewarded by God.**