

## Sexual Practices in the Church – His Purpose, His Design / His Covenant

Hebrews 13: 1-5

- I. What is God's purpose for sex?
- II. Am I following God's design as it pertains to sex?
- III. What is the Marriage Covenant?

I. What is God's purpose for sex?

- Sexual desire is a God given appetite, with a God given purpose

1a. Be Fruitful & Multiply

Genesis 2:18

Genesis 1:26-28

1b. Become One Flesh – The Bond of Sex in God's Design

Genesis 2:18-25

Man & Woman both had the same nature. But what man lacked she supplied, and what she lacked he supplied.

One flesh - the complete unity of man and woman in marriage under the Lord. THEN both the husband and the wife who through the spirit are fruitful with the character of Christ become 1 and together make the harmonious whole under Christ that God is pleased with.

1c. To be received In Thanks to the glory of God

1 Timothy 4: 1-6

II. Am I following God's Design as it pertains to sex?

In God's design I found that there are two "ingredients" that are vital must haves before you can partake in the act of sex.

## Faith in God & Covenant

### 2a. Faith in God

Romans 1:17-31

To have God's righteous character and will revealed to us we must live by Faith.

If you truly have faith in God Your lifestyle including your sexual conduct will show that faith.

We must remember that Faith's response is not a onetime act and then we're done. We have to continue in the faith.

That which is common to all man will come to all man.

God gave us faith, so we don't give in to the pressure of our tests.

Romans 5:1-5

1st Peter 1:3-9

Faith in God is more valuable than Gold when it is tried by fire.

Fiery trials like the opportunity to fornicate will refine or purify you when you are steadfast in the truth of the word.

Character is built through faith, fruitfulness is experienced through faith.

The pleasures that God has designed for His purpose are put in order when you have faith in Him and His Character.

What is the truth? - Through God's work of Grace, we have been made a new creature with a new nature. No longer do we have a sin nature and with this new nature I now have the ability to keep covenant. That is now that I can consistently bring forth Godly fruit (The Fruit of the Spirit) I can keep the covenant of marriage because I know that I must continuously present my body a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable which is my reasonable service or obvious worship as a New Creature.

### 2b. Covenant

In God's design Covenant is the vehicle by which a man and a woman are to establish the lifelong, faithful relationship in which physical sexual interaction is meant to operate.

Covenant is also the fundamental tool that God has designed to construct and order His relationship with man.

1 Corinthians 6:15-20

Covenant- the binding or establishing of a bond or kinship, an alliance, a coming together of two or more parties, an agreement, a Contract, a pledge, marriage or union, an oath, to put oneself under a curse

God initiated, determined the elements, and established His covenant with man.

For God and for you as a believer covenant is most binding and must not be broken.

The Abrahamic Covenant - Genesis 14:18- 5:21

God develops Abram's faith -

Hebrews 11:8-9

Genesis 12:1-3

Genesis 12:6-7

Genesis 13:14-17

Shield = Your protector, Your defense

Reward = payment of contract; compensation, benefit, prize.

Abrams Faith:

This statement "And he believed in the Lord "is Abrams commitment of faith.

He is committing his life to God, and God accounted to him for righteousness.

Romans 4:1-5

Galatians 3:14-15

It is God promising something Abram isn't promising anything, he just laid still and believed God.

Romans 4:4-5

Abram could do nothing but except God's Gift

John 3:16

He put on flesh and became man and put on our curse for us all to make us His covenant family.

Therefore, the covenant is between God the Father and God the Son. Both gave something:

God gave the Son

The Son gave His life

And we just laid there paralyzed by sin.

So as you can see God takes covenant very seriously.

God didn't hire Abram but He made a PROMISE.

The promises in the scriptures are sure to us and all we have to do is stay in faith.

Romans 4:13-16

The Church belongs to God and are covenant people, to have sex outside the marriage covenant is to say, "I despise the covenants of God".

Marriage is a covenant that only ends by death and sex can only be experienced by a marriage covenant.

Matthew 19:4-6

1 Corinthians 7:1-2