

Sexual Practices in the Church: His Purpose, His Design, His Covenant

Hebrews 13: 1-5

I. What is God's purpose for sex?

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

1a. Be Fruitful & Multiply

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

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 one 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 His design, His purpose and will are fulfilled

The design is Faith in God & Covenant.

2a. Faith in God

Romans 1:17-31

From faith to faith His righteous character, His Will, His purpose will be revealed to you.

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

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.

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.

Those who hold this truth in unrighteousness, those who change this truth of God to a lie.

Those who don't trust in God and who don't satisfy their sexual desires according to His design are in sin because there is no regard or respect for Gods' purpose or His covenant.

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.

Covenant- the binding or establishing of a bond or kinship, an alliance, a coming together of two or more parties, a promise, a contract, an oath, to put oneself under a curse

God's dealing with man by covenant tells us "I am committed to you even beyond your death. My promise to you is everlasting."

The Abrahamic Covenant - Genesis 14:18- 15:21

God develops Abram's faith -

Genesis 12:1-3

Genesis 12:6-7

Genesis 13:14-17

Hebrews 11:8-9

We can rely on this - the righteousness of God is revealed through the Gospel from faith to faith.

God's revelation is always progressive, that is God will not sit down with you and explain the total details to you. He starts at the end from the beginning. This means that God will reveal to us His desire to make us victorious from the start of our walk with Him.

Genesis 15:1

The Revelation of God as Shield and Reward – because of Abram’s faith

Verses 2-4

Abram is saying; God I am ready to be productive, but you have to give me what I need. Then the word of the Lord went forth to Abram.

Verse 5-6

Abrams Faith:

He is committing his life to God, and God accounted to him for righteousness. From this point on Abram is sold out to whatever God wants to do.

Verse 7- 8

Gods covenant with Abram:

Abram is not doubting God? He is asking can I get this in writing. Abraham is used to dealing in covenant with other men.

Verses 9-11

God taking covenant seriously is willing to enter into a man’s covenant

Verse 12

Abram is on the ground asleep – we said this is tantamount to being paralyzed or dead

Verses 17

In verse 17 it isn’t Abram walking between these pieces. It is God promising something. Abram isn’t promising anything; he just laid still and believed God.

The covenant was between two parties but Abram had nothing to do with it.

The covenant was 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, sleep or dead in our trespasses and sin. All we have to do is believe by Faith.

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

III. What is the marriage Covenant?

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

Matthew 19:4-6

Cleave - to unite, to stick to, to adhere firmly or loyally and unwavering

The Marriage Covenant -

It is the holiness of the Lord, that is

Sanctity, consecration, and dedication, it is a place where God can walk, live, reign and rule among you as one in your marriage. It's to be desired, loved and to not have to second guess where you stand in the heart of a person. To know they are committed, fully persuaded, and promised to and for you

The commitment or determination is love. The God Kind of Love.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only son Christ and whosoever has Faith in Christ can keep the covenant of marriage that God has established

Ephesians 5:25

1 John 4:16-18

Then you will begin to understand when he says the purpose of sex is to be fruitful and multiply. Your seed must be fruitful or Godly as well.

Then you can see God's purpose in becoming one flesh is to show you the harmony of His righteous character in the two that have become one. So that your seed and others can see that what God has joined together no man can put asunder because of His righteousness.

Then you can give thanks to God for sex and the vehicle of covenant by which it is to be enjoyed.

The force behind a successful Christian marriage can be found only in God's purpose.

Malachi 2:10-16

Dealing Treacherously - covertly having other agendas, being unfaithful, not having the right motive in the marriage

The issue is, the ways of God are being forsaken and the church is picking up the ways of this world (married to the daughter of a strange god) making these things Elohim in our lives, great and mighty willing to answer to the world rather than The Lord.

You have to be a believer to be a husband in God's covenant
You have to be a believer to be a wife in God's covenant.

Because if the two are believers then they are one and are governed by submission, that the will of God for the covenant of marriage and for the family is done. Trying to function outside of submission brings dishonor to God's purpose.

Submission assures God that we will stay in obedience to His design. It is how God Keeps us and protects us. Placing yourself under submission gives you divine protection.

Submission is yielding to the established standard of authority so God's purpose is fulfilled.

Submission is key for us to complete God's purpose.

We must remember that when we make our decisions and our choices outside of God's purpose and God's will it's not just you that it affects.