



LET'S DO IT GOD'S WAY "Preserving the Sanctity of Marriage" Exodus 20:14

No. 5525

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It is clear from both the prophetic (Jeremiah 5:7-9) and apostolic (1 Corinthians 5:1-5) ministries, not to mention the ministry of Christ Himself (Matthew 5:27-32), that ancient cultures had severe problems with sexual immorality. God's obvious concern about this is related to His commitment to the sanctity of marriage. God's Word in this regard needs to be heeded today.

I. The Curse of Adultery.

- A. Adultery defies God.
 - 1. The example of Joseph. Genesis 39:9
 - 2. The confession of David. Psalm 51:3-4
- B. Adultery destroys families.
 - 1. God's commitment to the family. Deuteronomy 6:2
 - 2. Adultery warranted death penalty! Deuteronomy 22:22
- C. Adultery defiles marriage.
 - 1. Marriage is exclusive. Genesis 2:24
 - 2. Marriage is permanent.
- D. Adultery denies love.
 - 1. Love's dimensions. Romans 13:8-10
 - 2. Love's application—loving her/your spouse and children?
- E. Adultery derides faithfulness.
 - 1. The place of covenant. Proverbs 2:16-17
 - 2. The destruction of trust. Malachi 2:13-16
- F. Adultery degrades people.
 - 1. Physical damage. Romans 1:24
 - 2. Emotional scarring—self worth?
 - 3. Communal impact. 1 Corinthians 5:6
 - 4. Spiritual implications. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

II. The Causes of Adultery.

- A. Uncertain standards.
 - 1. Divine principles?
 - 2. Contemporary mores?
- B. Unrestrained sexuality.
 - 1. The God-given sex drive.
 - 2. The need for limits.
- C. Unfulfilled desires.
 - 1. Unsatisfactory marriages.
 - 2. Unlimited opportunities.
- D. Undisciplined lifestyle.
 - 1. Adultery of the mind. Matthew 5:28
 - 2. Adultery of the eyes.
- E. Unconfessed sin.
 - 1. Recognizing lust. Mark 7:20-23
 - 2. Refusing to deal with it. James 1:13-15

III. The Cure of Adultery.

- A. Preventative.
 - 1. Agree with God.
 - 2. Grow in grace. Colossians 3:1-10; Galatians 5:19-25
 - 3. Guard yourself in the Spirit. Malachi 2:16; Matthew 5:27-30
- B. Remedial.
 - 1. A repentant spirit. John 8:1-11
 - 2. A loving Savior. John 8:11
 - 3. A caring community. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
 - 4. A forgiving family. e.g. Hosea