

1 Corinthians 6:12&F

2/17/19

Sunday Morning

1. When it appeared that this was the book we were to study – this passage came to my mind immediately
 - a. I have dreaded it since we started
 - i. I'm not uncomfortable w/ the topic of sex
 - ii. I'm uncomfortable b/c I know that it will open some old wounds for some
 - b. But it is important b/c there are many believers who don't see the seriousness of immorality
 - c. Many are simply justifying their sins in their own minds
 - i. Hear me on this – just b/c you can justify it to yourself doesn't mean that God is ok immorality
2. The Corinthians were a very immoral people
3. They didn't want to give that lifestyle up – so they tried to justify it
4. Their rationale was – in the same way we need food – we need sex

1 Corinthians 6:12 All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.

¹³ Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of them. Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body.

¹⁴ Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.

¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be!

¹⁶ Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body *with her*? For He says, "THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH."

¹⁷ But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

¹⁸ Flee immorality. Every *other* sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

²⁰ For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

V.12 *All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.*

1. "All things are lawful for me"

a. Paul starts by establishing the principle of the **Law of Liberty** –

i. Christ has set us free to live life fully

Galatians 5:1 It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.

b. He is referring to things that are biblically ok – moral & amoral

2. "not all things are profitable"

a. But there is a higher law than the **Law of Liberty**

i. It is the **Law of expediency**

ii. While I'm free to do certain things – they are not always the best things to do

b. We will cover this later in chapter 8

i. Suffice it to say that our actions shouldn't be a detriment to others

1 Corinthians 8:9 But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

1 Corinthians 10:23 All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful, but not all things edify.

3. "but I will not be mastered by anything"

a. And all of life has limitations – we need to be balanced in all we do

i. Exercise, food, work, hobbies, TV, music, nothing other than Christ, should be the driving force of our lives

V.13 Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of them. Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body.

1. "Food &...stomach...God will do away with both of them"

a. The Corinthians were saying – everyone needs food & everyone needs sex – Paul addresses that philosophy

b. He doesn't mean that someday we won't eat anymore

c. We know that isn't true by Scripture

i. After the resurrection Christ ate w/ His disciples

Luke 24:40 And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.

⁴¹ While they still could not believe *it* because of their joy and amazement, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"

⁴² They gave Him a piece of a broiled fish;

⁴³ and He took it and ate *it* before them.

ii. I assume we will eat & drink in eternity

Mark 14:25 "Truly I say to you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Revelation 22:2 in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

iii. He is talking about the stomach & food as they now function

2. "Yet the body is not for immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body"

a. He isn't talking about our spirit or our soul – he is talking about our **bodies** – our bodies are the issue here

b. That God would talk about the human body bothered the pious copyist of olden days

i. They had to make it seem more spiritual by adding to **V.20** by saying God was talking about the body and the spirit

1 Corinthians 6:20 (KJV) For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 6:20 (NKJV) For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

ii. Not in original

iii. This dilutes what Paul is saying

iv. It is pornography & abortion that places such a low value on the human body – those things declare the body valueless

c. God has given us bodies – we are **not** to use them for immorality

1 Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality;

⁴ that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

⁵ not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles^(lost) who do not know God;

V.7 For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.

⁸ So, he who rejects this is not rejecting man **but** the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.

Romans 6:12 Therefore do **not** let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

d. **Point #1.** – We are not to be immoral b/c **God has given us a body for a purpose** – to use for His glory – not for immorality

i. Your body, **as it is now**, won't last very long – don't waste a day by not using it for God's service

Romans 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship

V.14 Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.

1. "but will also raise us up through His power"

a. **Point #2.** – Don't use your body for immorality – b/c **this is the only body you are going to have thru all eternity**

i. We don't want to have committed sins w/ this body b/c this is the **only** body we will have

ii. We don't get a new one

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,

V.52 (NP)

⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

⁵³ For this perishable must put on the imperishable,

and this mortal must put on immortality.

⁵⁴ But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

- iii. The body you have now is going to be **changed** – but it is still the same body
- b. Since this is our only body – we need to be careful what we do w/ it!
 - i. I will go into eternity with this one – incorruptible but same
 - ii. Remember the next life is an extension of this one

V.15 **Do you not know** that *your bodies are members of Christ?* Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be!

1. "your bodies are members of Christ"

a. **Point #3.** – We are not to be immoral b/c **our bodies are members of Christ's body**

i. There is a union of our bodies w/ His body

ii. This is a work of the Holy Spirit – therefore we are to live pure lives in this body

iii. We will look into this more in **Chapter 12**

1 Corinthians 12:27 Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

Ephesians 5:30 because we are members of His body.

a. How can you be united w/ Christ & be illicitly united w/ someone else at the same time?

V.16 Or **do you not know** that *the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body with her?* For He says, "**THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.**"

1. "the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body with her"

a. **Point #4.** – WE are not to be immoral b/c – **when you are immoral, you become one flesh w/ someone else**

- b. Sexual intimacy, no matter how transient, is **never** just a physical act
- i. There is a mystical side to it that can't be denied
2. "THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH"
- a. This is seen all thru Scripture
- Genesis 2:23** The man said, "This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."
- ²⁴ For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.
- Matthew 19:4** And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,
- ⁵ and said, 'FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH'?
- ⁶ "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."
- Mark 10:6** "But from the beginning of creation, *God* MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE.
- ⁷ "FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER,
- ⁸ AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH; so they are no longer two, but one flesh.
- ⁹ "What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."
- Ephesians 5:31** FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.

V.17 But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

V.18 Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

1. "the immoral man sins against his own body"

- a. **Point #5.** – We are to be moral b/c – **the sin of immorality sins against the body like no other sin**
 - b. You would think that drug addiction, alcoholism, other similar sins are committed against the body – and they are BUT...
 - i. In all other sins the body is the **subject** of the sin
 - ii. In immorality it is the **instrument** of the sin
 - iii. No other sin is committed **by** the body
 - iv. Immorality is **against** the body in a unique way
 - c. Studies have shown that premarital sex **always weakens** a marriage
 - d. I have never known single godly person who hasn't wished that they could go back & undo the immorality – if immorality was committed
2. "Flee immorality"
- a. Because it is so devastating we are commanded to flee w/out hesitation
 - b. It is a picture of not thinking "about running" – just run!
 - i. Same word used for fleeing idolatry
1 Corinthians 10:14 Therefore, my beloved, **flee** from idolatry.
 - c. Joseph is a good example of how we should deal w/ immorality – flee
Genesis 39:12 She^(Potiphar's wife) caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me!" And he left his garment in her hand and **fled**, and went outside.

V.19 Or **do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit** who is in you, whom you have from God, **and that you are not your own?**

1. "do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit"

- a. **Point #6.** – Immorality is wrong b/c – **Every believer has the Holy Spirit living inside**
- b. He is a tremendous **gift** from God – "...whom you have from God..."

John 14:16 "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him,

but you know Him because He abides with you and **will be in you.**

- c. Before the cross God's presence was made manifest by His Shekinah glory
- i. A good example was the cloud by day & fire by night by which He led the children of Israel thru the wilderness
 - ii. Today **He lives in us** & **guides us** as He did Israel from the outside in O.T.

John 16:7 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

V.12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now.

¹³ "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

¹⁴ "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose *it* to you.

¹⁵ "All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.

- d. He not only guides us but empowers us to live for Him

Acts 1:6 So when they^(disciples) had come together, they were asking Him^(Jesus), saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;

⁸ but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

- e. God choosing to live inside of us is a remarkable thing
- i. To bring His presence into an illicit relationship is beyond sinful

2. "Do you not know...that you are not your own"
- a. **Point #7.** – We are to remain moral b/c – **we belong to someone else – we do not own our bodies**
 - b. At first thought that may not sound good to you
 - i. Maybe you would rather be your own person
 - c. If you think about it – do you really want to belong to no one – to be totally your own?
 - i. I've know people who have lost their spouse and felt they didn't belong to anyone any more – they hated it!
 - d. Your value is not based on what you own – it is based on Who owns you!
 - i. Being owned by God is a grand thing!
 - ii. You aren't just owned but you are cherished by Him
Titus 2:14 who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.
1 Peter 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;
 - e. The lost man really doesn't belong to anyone, who cares for him – he is just wandering thru life aimlessly – no direction b/c there is on ownership

V.20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

1. "you have been bought with a price"
 - a. **Point #8.** – We are not to be immoral b/c **we were bought w/ a price**
 - i. He doesn't say that we belong to God by virtue of creation – b/c He made us
 - ii. He doesn't say we are His by way of preservation – b/c protects us from all evil
 - iii. He doesn't say we are His by virtue of sustentation – b/c He keeps us alive w/ His air, water, food, etc.

- b. We are His by virtue of **purchase** – b/c His Son died for our sins
- c. The value of something is in what someone is willing to pay for it
 - i. You can only sell a house for what someone thinks it's worth
- d. God put an extremely high value on you – the life of His Son!
- e. The Price of our body, soul and spirit is based on the love God has for us – not our intrinsic value

1 John 4:10 In this is love, **not** that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

- 2. "therefore glorify God in your body"
 - a. We are owned by God b/c He was willing to pay such a high price for us
 - b. No one except the most selfish of individuals would want to live immorally w/ such a God as ours
 - c. We are to glorify Him with our lives

Romans 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

