

THE TRUTH ABOUT

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# Sexual Sins

CARNAL  
DELIGHTS

We have built into us a strong sexual desire, but the desire is not stronger than our will. When sexuality rules our conduct, it is because we have allowed it to by choice.

# Biblical Warning Against Sexual Sins:

## 1. Sodom and Gomorrah

The story of Sodom and Gomorrah takes place in the book of Genesis, beginning in chapter 13. Abraham and his nephew Lot shared the same feeding pasture for their flocks until the flocks grew too large and they had to split up in order to sustain the herds. Lot chose the well-watered plains of Jordan, where the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were located. In spite of the sinfulness of the people, Lot continued to live there and prosper. God saw the wickedness of these cities was very great and makes known to Abraham what he is about to do. Abraham intervenes on behalf of the righteous people of the city, but not even ten righteous people could be found. God sends his angels to destroy Sodom and they see first had the sexual depravity of the men the city, Lot offers his two virgin daughters to the men as a barter instead of the two angels, but they refuse, preferring the angels whom God sent to destroy the city. For Abraham's sake, the angels rescue Lot and his family, but only after having to forcibly remove them because they lingered and refused to see the urgency. On the way out of the city, Lot's wife looks back after being told not to and is turned into a pillar of salt.

### Three lessons to take from Sodom and Gomorrah:

1. When Lot chose the well-watered plains of Jordan for his herds, he only saw the benefits of the area and ignored the negative. Lot may not have been aware of the sins of Sodom originally, but once he became aware he didn't leave. first pitching his tent towards Sodom...

#### **Genesis 13:12-13 KJV**

[12] Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom. [13] But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly.

Then living within the city...

#### **Genesis 14:12 KJV**

And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

Finally, living and conducting day-to-day business within the city. The "gate" is the public area where local businessmen, leaders, and visiting foreigners met and socialized.

#### **Genesis 19:1 KJV**

And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;

Sin has a way of slowly drawing us in, desensitizing us over time to its wickedness. Wealth and a luxurious lifestyle were probably the lubricant that allowed Lot to justify his continued residency in the city even though he was aware of the evil that was happening around him. Imagine the different outcome of Sodom if Lot used his position to be a light to the city and preach the truth of God?

2. The sexual depravity of Sodom was so great that it infected the whole population of the city into a single-minded act.

**Genesis 19:4-5,7 KJV**

[4] But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter: [5] And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them. [7] And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.

Even absurd levels of bartering did not change the minds of the men who were unyielding in their pursuit of vile sexual obsession.

**Genesis 19:8 KJV**

[8] Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.

Compromising with sin will always lead to our destruction. No matter what limits we place around it, sin has no respect for our borders and if given a foothold in our life will ultimately take over and lead us to deeds we never imagined we were capable of becoming.

3. "And while he lingered..." The two angels that God had sent to destroy the city had to physically drag Lot and his family out of the city to safety.

**Genesis 19:15-16 KJV**

[15] And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city. [16] And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the Lord being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.

They had to leave the city and flee with their lives, leaving all their acquired wealth and lifestyle behind. Their priorities were tested and they failed. The grace of God overcame their hesitation and he rescued them in spite of their failings, but warned them not to look back at the destruction.

**Genesis 19:17 KJV**

And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.

**Genesis 19:26 KJV**

But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

Looking back, or longing for, was the disobedience of Lot's wife, who was turned to a pillar of salt. The sin of the city was wicked enough for God to destroy the whole area but Lot's wife was more disappointed about leaving her lifestyle and material possessions behind than she was grateful that God had spared their lives. Negotiating with sin always compromises our priorities and changes our focus away from the things of God.

## 2. Samson and Delilah

The story of Samson and Delilah is told in the book of Judges, ch. 13-16. Manoah and his barren wife were visited by the angel of the Lord and told she would bear a son. The boy would be a Nazarite (consecrated to God) from the womb and no razor should touch his head nor should his mother drink wine or strong drink. Sampson would be used by God to deliver Israel from the hands of the Philistines. Although he was consecrated to God, Sampson saw a Philistine woman and lusted after her for a wife, something he shouldn't have done. He tells a riddle to the Philistines as a bet and then threatens his wife to find out the answer. She gets him to reveal the answer, she tells it, and Sampson loses the bet. He kills 30 Philistine men and takes their possessions to cover the bet. Angry, he goes back to his father's house and while gone, his Philistine wife is given to another man. This starts the back and forth animosity between Sampson and the Philistines that lasts until his death.

The men of Judah tell Samson he can't stay with them because the Philistines ruled over them and they convince him they will bind him and turn him over to the Philistines. Sampson agrees but as soon as he's in the midst of the Philistines, he breaks the ropes and kills a thousand men with the jawbone of an ass. Sampson loves another Philistine woman, Delilah, but not enough to marry her. She is bribed by the Philistines to discover his great strength so the Philistines can overtake him. After several lies to Delilah and failed attempts to prevail against him, Sampson finally tells her the truth which she passes on to the Philistines and they are able to capture him. They put out his eyes and cast him in prison.

The Philistines throw a big sacrificial feast to their pagan god to celebrate the defeat of Sampson and they take him out of prison and place him in their temple next to the support columns where all can see so he can be mocked. Sampson asks God to return his strength to him one more time to avenge for his eyes. God obliges and Sampson uses all his strength to knock out the support column and collapsing the temple on everyone gathered. More Philistines died in Sampson's last act than he slew in his lifetime.

### Three lessons to take from Sampson and Delilah:

1. Sampson should not have chosen a wife from among the Philistines. He was consecrated to God but his lust drove him more than his commitment and he desired her, even over his parents' objection and God forbidding Israel from being unequally yoked together with unbelievers in marriage.
2. Sampson loved Delilah, a Philistine woman, but not enough to marry her. Delilah loved money more than she loved Sampson. They both allowed ulterior motives to rule their decisions and the lustful arrangement never fostered a genuine trust between either one of them and betraying each other was the result.
3. Sampson didn't learn his lesson. His first wife betrayed him over a riddle and he still kept seeking women from among the Philistines. Delilah betrayed him 4 TIMES, ultimately leading to his capture and eventual death. Sampson also forgot his source of strength came from God and not of himself. He could do nothing once the Lord had departed from him (Judges 16:20)

## 4. The alluring power of sexual temptation is the deceptive offer of immediate pleasure without penalty.

### Proverbs 5:1-23 KJV

[1] My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding: [2] That thou mayest regard discretion, and that thy lips may keep knowledge. [3] For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: [4] But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword. [5] Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell. [6] Lest thou shouldst ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, that thou canst not know them. [7] Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth. [8] Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house: [9] Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel: [10] Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger; [11] And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed, [12] And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof; [13] And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me! [14] I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly. [15] Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well. [16] Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets. [17] Let them be only thine own, and not strangers' with thee. [18] Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. [19] Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love. [20] And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger? [21] For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and he pondereth all his goings. [22] His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins. [23] He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.

## 5. Our bodies belong to Christ and not for fornication

### 1 Corinthians 6:8-20 KJV

[8] Nay, ye do wrong, and defraud, and that your brethren. [9] Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, [10] Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. [11] And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. [12] All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. [13] Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body. [14] And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power. [15] Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. [16] What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. [17] But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. [18] Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. [19] What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? [20] For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

## 6. God calls us to be Holy, not unclean with our bodies

### 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 KJV

[3] For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: [4] That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; [5] Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: [6] That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. [7] For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. [8] He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.

*When we consent to the temptation long enough, it begins to wear a mark into our lives that becomes both obvious others and inescapable to our own yearnings. We begin to alter our life and rearrange our focus to accommodate our ungodly lustful desires.*



## **Steps to Forgiveness from Sexual Sins:**

1. **Confess** - God already knows, confession helps us acknowledge to ourself.
2. **Take full responsibility** - Accept your role, put away the excuses and blame.
3. **Genuine repentance** - Be sorry for the sin, not just the consequence.
4. **Ask God to forgive you** - Understand the level of the sacrifice Jesus made for you.
5. **Accept God's forgiveness** - God forgiveness is a product of His grace.
6. **Forgive ourselves** - The hardest one, but if God can forgive you, you can, too.
7. **Remove yourself completely from the situation**
8. **Daily meditation in the word of God** - Build your faith and strengthen your resolve.

