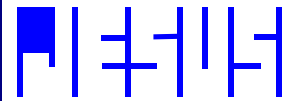


Passion, Lust & The Sin of Silence

"YOU ARE LOVED!" - DR. MYRON J. PETERSEN, TH.D

WHAT DO YOU SEE?



Passion, Lust & The Sin of Silence!

- ◆ Judge not, that ye be not judged. - Matthew 7:1 The Bible
- ◆ What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? 13 God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you." - 1 Corinthians 5:12-13 (NIV)

"Love the sinner. Hate the sin!" - M.J.P.

Opinions are like noses. Most everybody has one. What does God's Word, the Bible, says concerning this area of passion and lust? Opinions aren't worth much when they stand next to God's Word. The Greek word for "judge" in Matthew 7:1 has to do with critical judgment or always trying to pick on every little fault of someone else. "Judge not, that ye be not judged." God, however, is very emphatic about what he wants us to understand about sex sins. He is not quiet on this topic at all. Even three of His Ten Commandments touch on this area. These commandments were absolute laws that revealed our sinful nature and were a tutor or a schoolmaster to lead us to Christ.

God spoke:

- ◆ Thou shalt have none other gods before me. Deut 5:7
- ◆ Neither shalt thou commit adultery. Deut 5:18
- ◆ Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any [thing] that [is] thy neighbour's. Deut 5:21

Jesus was very emphatic:

- ◆ Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart. Matthew 5:27

"Adultery" is defined by Webster's Dictionary as voluntary sexual intercourse between a married man and someone other than his wife or between a married woman and someone other than her husband. Therefore, why would Jesus use the word "adultery" rather than "fornication," which is defined by Webster's Dictionary as, human intercourse other than between a man and his wife, or sexual intercourse between a spouse and an unmarried person: sexual intercourse between unmarried people? In Christ Jesus, the spiritual church through faith in Christ, is betrothed to Jesus and is considered His bride. For those who believe on Him and are lusting after other creations of God or perhaps even lusting after other things are therefore committing adultery because they (the church) are cheating on Christ who is the husband of the church. Since we as individual believers make up the church, we would be cheating on Christ and therefore guilty of adultery, if we were to lust after someone else rather than having a godly passion for God our creator. Wow! Cheating on God! That is adultery! STOP IT! That's a good reason not to lust after others or other things. It would actually be cheating on God or committing adultery. Jesus wanted his listeners to realize that they were sinners and that there was no hope. They needed a Saviour.

Apostle Paul also wrote concerning cheating and the inheritance of the wicked. Note: Who are they who are referred to as "the wicked" in the following verses?

- ◆ "Instead, you yourselves cheat and do wrong, and you do this to your brothers. 9 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. Sexual Immorality: . . . 13. . . The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." 17 But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. 18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body." 1Cor 6:8-18 (NIV)

- ◆ I have written you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people-- 10 not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindler, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. 11 But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. 1 Corinthians 5:9-11 (NIV)

In Proverbs chapter 7, the prostitute is portrayed as a woman who is a sexually promiscuous outside of her marriage, and not necessarily as one who has sexual intercourse for money or for other things. The Proverbs chapter 7 woman is also an illustration of "Worldly Wisdom" in contrast to the "Wisdom of God" which was given by the father.

Notice below that sex sins are works of "the flesh." Not a genetic curse, disease or sickness:

- ◆ Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are [these]; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told [you] in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. Galatians 5:19 (KJV)

Is sexual intercourse outside of a marriage really wrong? The answer is an emphatic "YES, it is wrong. It is outside of the will of God, and is an abomination to God." It is rebellion against God. Are other sex sins wrong such as lust, masturbation, homosexuality, bestiality, orgies, etc, etc? Opinions don't count for a lot. It's what God says in His word which is what is of absolute importance. What does the Bible say about these areas? (Some Scripture already given above.)

- ◆ And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. 23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 (KJV)

Incest is found in the Bible because of the worldly wisdom of two girls. They decided not to trust in God. Because of incest, two evil nations were born that were a torment to the nation of Israel.

- ◆ And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters. 31 And the firstborn said unto the younger, Our father [is] old, and [there is] not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth: 32 Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.
- ◆ 33 And they made their father drink wine that night: and the firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.
- ◆ 34 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yester night with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, [and] lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father. 35 And they made their father drink wine that night also: and the younger arose, and lay with him; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.
- ◆ 36 Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father. 37 And the firstborn bare a son, and called his name Moab: the same [is] the father of the Moabites unto this day. 38 And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Benammi: the same [is] the father of the children of Ammon unto this day. Genesis 19:30-38 (KJV)

The Moabites and Ammonites mentioned above became the enemies of the nation of Israel.

Even Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed with fire and brimstone because of the evil desire for sex sins between men with other men or possibly the desire of men having the desire to have sex with angelic beings. God knew their hearts were evil.

- ◆ Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom—both young and old—surrounded the house. 5 They called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them." Genesis 19:4-5 (NIV)

Notice what reveals the wrath of God. Not only sexual sins, but also those who not only practice such, but also have pleasure in others who do the same.

- ◆ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in

unrighteousness; 19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed [it] unto them. {in them: or, to them} 20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: {so...: or, that they may be}

- ◆ 21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified [him] not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, 23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.
- ◆ 24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: 25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. {more: or, rather}
- ◆ 26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: 27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.
- ◆ 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in [their] knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; {to retain: or, to acknowledge} {a reprobate...: or, a mind void of judgment or, an unapproving mind} 29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, 30 Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: {without natural...: or unsociable} 32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them. {have...: or, consent with} Romans 1:18-32 (KJV)

The Sin of Silence remains as the bride of Christ is being raped by the cults.

- ◆ If a man be found lying with a woman married to an husband, then they shall both of them die, [both] the man that lay with the woman, and the woman: so shalt thou put away evil from Israel.
- ◆ 23 If a damsel [that is] a virgin be betrothed unto an husband, and a man find her in the city, and lie with her; 24 Then ye shall bring them both out unto the gate of that city, and ye shall stone them with stones that they die; the damsel, because she cried not, [being] in the city; and the man, because he hath humbled his neighbour's wife: so thou shalt put away evil from among you.
- ◆ 25 But if a man find a betrothed damsel in the field, and the man force her, and lie with her: then the man only that lay with her shall die: {force: or, take strong hold of} 26 But unto the damsel thou shalt do nothing; [there is] in the damsel no sin [worthy] of death: for as when a man riseth against his neighbour, and slayeth him, even so [is] this matter: 27 For he found her in the field, [and] the betrothed damsel cried, and [there was] none to save her. Deut 22:22-27 (KJV)

THE SIN OF SILENCE: Notice that the guilty girl who got raped in the city did not scream for help. Today the virgin bride of Christ, which is the church, is being raped by the cults who proclaim to be Christians yet are preaching another Jesus and another gospel. For the most part, the church has remained silent. A very high percentage of cult membership are those people who were once sitting under the teachings of Christian pastors and who were once attending Christian churches. Some have estimated this to be as high as 70% to 80% of some cult membership. It is time for the church to no longer remain silent, but to proclaim OUT LOUD the truth of the gospel of Christ. Salvation through faith in Christ and Him alone. Christians should understand the differences between a cult and a Christian body of believers. Some say that bank employees only look at the good \$100 bills so that if they get a counterfeit, they have come to know "real thing" so well that the counterfeit bills will just stand out to them. That statement is not true. If there are counterfeit \$100 bills circulating in the area of a bank's location, the managers of the bank and often the employees are given a chance to see a copy of the counterfeit. Christian cults look real good on the outside, but inwardly they point to themselves as being the only true church and deny salvation through Christ and Him alone. Yes, they are circulating in our neighborhoods. How often has one group or another knocked on your door? Were you ready with an answer or did you just shut the door in their face. Or perhaps lie by saying that you didn't have time to talk because you were too busy. - The Sin of Silence!

- ◆ Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. 2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass: 3 Because I will publish the name of the LORD: ascribe ye greatness unto our God. Deut 32:1-2 (KJV)

Cults seem to use much the same tactics as the woman who seduces the young man lacking sense. Be Spirit-led, but don't fall into

the trap of this young man in Proverbs chapter 7. One of the young man's first mistakes was that he was hanging around the corner of the woman's house. Notice how he ended up.

- ◆ For at the window of my house I looked through my casement, 7 And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding, {the youths: Heb. the sons} 8 Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house, 9 In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night: {in the evening of days}
- ◆ 10 And, behold, there met him a woman [with] the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart. 11 (She [is] loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house: 12 Now [is she] without, now in the streets, and lieth in wait at every corner.) 13 So she caught him, and kissed him, [and] with an impudent face said unto him, {with....: Heb. she strengthened her face and said}
- ◆ 14 [I have] peace offerings with me; this day have I payed my vows. {I have....: Heb. Peace offerings are upon me} 15 Therefore came I forth to meet thee, diligently to seek thy face, and I have found thee. 16 I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved [works], with fine linen of Egypt. 17 I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon. 18 Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves. 19 For the goodman [is] not at home, he is gone a long journey: 20 He hath taken a bag of money with him, [and] will come home at the day appointed. {with....: Heb. in his hand} {the day....: or, the new moon}
- ◆ 21 With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him. 22 He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks; {straightway: Heb. suddenly} 23 Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it [is] for his life.
- ◆ 24 Harken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the words of my mouth. 25 Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. 26 For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong [men] have been slain by her. 27 Her house [is] the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death. Prov 7:6-27 (KJV)

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Colossians 3:1 KJV

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Romans 8:6 KJV

What is the answer then? How can a Christian have victory in this area?

- ◆ So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. 18. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law." NIV Galatians 5:16 "

Notice that it does not say that you are already made perfect and will never have the desires, but it clearly says not to gratify the desires. How? By walking in the Spirit! You may have the desire, but do not fulfill it! Turn your heart and mind back on Christ! Too many men seem to eye all the anatomy of a woman with the mindset of lust, rather than looking at the heart and praying for her.

Some people's suggestions:

- Guys, turn your lustful thoughts into prayers. Begin to see the fruit of your prayer life.
- Treat the opposite sex as you would your sister.
- Ask blessing upon the individual you were looking at.
- Ask God to bring them to a personal relationship with Jesus.
- Stop hanging around places you shouldn't be.
- Stop reading material you shouldn't read.
- Stop listening to things you shouldn't listen to.
- If you've been watching filthy television stories, sexual commercials, movies, porn on the internet, or anything that may be causing you to stumble or does not honor God, TURN IT OFF and FLEE from such garbage.
- Pray and get into the Word. Study the Word. - The Holy Bible.
- Encourage yourself in the Lord.
- Listen to Christian Radio at home or in the car.
- Listen to cassette tapes or CD's of the Word being read verse by verse while you are driving.
- Some Christians even listen to the Word as they sleep at night using an auto-reverse tape recorder. They claim that the Word is the last thing they hear when they go to sleep at night, and the first thing they hear when they wake up in the morning.
- Others use high speed tape recorders with variable pitch controls to listen to the Word at twice the speed or even half the speed.
- Some use the Franklin Electronic Bible to find Bible verses or to speed read the entire Bible.

- Get involved using the gifts of God that He has given to you. Walk in His calling for you.
- Be a Christian. Be a Friend. Love is not jealous. Love never fails. 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Be Spirit-led in all that you do. Be careful in putting yourself in harm's way or into the hands of temptation. Many Christians need to get out of the "Hot House or Greenhouse utopian environment" where they're only an on-fire Christian when perfect Christian unity is around them and where there is no danger confronting them. A bright light out in the sunshine isn't noticeable. A bright light placed in a dark room makes the whole room as bright as the light. Use balance of the two. Most of all, honor God in all that you say and do. Be Spirit-led in obedience to the will of God.

Stop lust at the first look. You can't help the first look. But the second look is your individual choice to look away or to look with fervent and respectful prayer. Sexual sins are often progressive beginning with lust, which leads to sin, which leads to death.

- ◆ Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. James 1:15 (KJV)

Your children are your disciples too!

Surely you wouldn't allow your child to come into the room while you and your spouse are having sexual intercourse. You wouldn't let your child go over to your neighbor's house and allow your children to watch the neighbors having sexual intercourse. Why then can anyone let their child watch people having sexual intercourse on television, movies, videos etc. etc.? That is inexcusable! That is just plain stupid! A so-called "Christian" mom bought her young teenage daughter a popular video, having to do with a huge ship that had sank years ago, which I understand had a passionate sexual scene in it. The mom allowed her daughter to watch it several times. After the young teenage girl watched the same video and sexual scene about 20-30 times and wore out the tape, the mom was now concerned why her daughter was starting to have sexual problems. Any wonder? Garbage in - Garbage out. What you soak up with a sponge is what comes out of it when you squeeze out the sponge.

A "Christian" is "One who abides as a disciple of Christ!" Was the mother or her daughter mentioned above acting as one who abides as a disciple of Christ? Absolutely not. What would you do given the same situation?

- ◆ What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Romans 6:1-2 (KJV)

Apostle Paul confessed his sins and gave glory to God. "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

- ◆ For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. 15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. {allow: Gr. know} 16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that [it is] good. 17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. 18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but [how] to perform that which is good I find not. 19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. 20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.
- ◆ 21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. 22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? {the body...: or, this body of death} 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- ◆ So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.
- ◆ 8:1 [There is] therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: {for sin: or, by a sacrifice for sin} 4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- ◆ 5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded [is] death; but to be spiritually minded [is] life and peace. {to be carnally...: Gr. the minding of the flesh} {to be spiritually...: Gr. the minding of the Spirit} 7 Because the carnal mind [is] enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. {the carnal...: Gr. the minding of the flesh} 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

- ◆ 9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. Romans 7:14-8:9 (KJV)

Can a Christian feel condemned? The answer is "Yes," if they are not walking "IN CHRIST JESUS...AFTER THE SPIRIT."

- ◆ 8:1 [There is] therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Once again as Paul said in Romans 7:24-25

- ◆ "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? {the body....: or, this body of death} 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord....."

Jesus is the only answer! **"Set your minds on things above."**

- ◆ Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.
- ◆ 5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. 7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in the knowledge the image of its Creator. 11 Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.
- ◆ 12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
- ◆ 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you each and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as to sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:1-17 (NIV)

A "How to Get Rich" book's bottom line was to turn every sexual thought into a thought about how to make money and get rich. Likewise, we need to be rich toward God and turn all our sexual thoughts into thoughts about God.

Within Christian marriage, God has orchestrated the moments of sexual intimacy and spiritual passion between husband and wife. In marriage too, Christ must be at the center of our most precious moments of love, passion, sexual and romantic desire.

- ◆ For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief. Proverbs 24:16 (KJV)
- ◆ So watch yourselves, "If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. 4 If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, 'I repent,' forgive him." Luke 17:3-4 (NIV)
- ◆ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. 1 John 1:8-10 (KJV)