

Empire Church of the Brethren

## Sunday Service Sermons

**30 July 2023**

Impurity

“A man who commits adultery lacks judgment; whoever does so destroys himself.” *Pro. 32.*

The fourth deadly sin was labeled impurity by the ancient fathers.

We know it better by the word lust.

It is a category of sin that deals with the immorality of sexual sins.

Lust, premarital and extramarital sex. Prostitution, pornography, and other sexual sins fall in the category.

Lust demonstrates a lack of maturity.

Our Scripture text for today makes this point.

A man who commits adultery has no sense.

A lack of judgment indicates a lack of maturity.

The world declares otherwise, and unfortunately even some Christians have been fooled.

The world calls some movies “adult movies” or rates some “For mature audiences only.”

The Christian should rightly ask, “If this is maturity, then what would be immaturity?”

Lust is built on the world of fantasy, not reality.

Lust dreams of activities that either are impossible or require the misuse and disregard of another’s person rights.

It is selfishness in its lowest form.

Lust is not the admiration of physical beauty.

It is perfectly natural to appreciate an attractive person.

But real maturity does not let such “appreciation” become an obsession.

That is the essential difference.

Lust is coveting, uncontrolled craving, unleashed passion.

Man should not behave like an animal, for he is more than an animal; he is a creature made in the image of God and should act as such.

Lust demonstrates a lack of good judgment.

Our Scripture text makes a second point about sexual depravity.

It states clearly that adulterers lack judgment.

Adultery, fornication, incest, rape, masochism, and all other sexual sins demonstrate a lack of wisdom.

It is apparent that such actions do not take into consideration the consequences.

On the other hand, if one does know the consequences of such activity and still proceeds, then he or she is indeed lacking in good judgment.

Sincerity and responsibility are two qualities of good judgment.

People who practice free love hide under the guise of enlightened intellectualism; they actually demonstrate a childish emotional level.

Babies demonstrate almost total selfishness and self-centeredness.

This is necessary for their development, and hardly anyone expects them to act otherwise.

They cry to gain our attention and have temper tantrums to express their feelings of frustration.

The only way to end such behavior is to mold our world around their needs and desire.

Lustful people behave like babies.

They resent any restrictions on their behavior and lack the judgment to be able to understand that they cannot always have what they want when they want it.

Lust produces self-destruction.

Our Scripture text says that anyone “who commits adultery has no sense; whoever does so

destroys himself”

There are so many ways this verse proves true.

Ministers, doctors, lawyers, psychologists, and social service personnel regularly see evidence of this.

Sexual sins cause grief, destruction of trust, guilt, divorce, anger, frustration, jealousy, deceit, murder, physical injury, wrecked futures, loss of friendships and jobs, the list seems endless!

Many believe that they should be allowed to live their sexual lives as they choose.

Perhaps if one lived in a vacuum, such logic would make more sense.

But because “no man is an island,” such logic is absurd.

Nearly every one of the professionals listed before can tell you how adultery, incest, and the whole list of sexual sins has destroyed the lives of others.

If you think you can violate the laws of God to your own selfish desires with impurity, you are wrong.

“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A person reaps what they sow. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction, whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.” *Gal, 6:7-8*

Let us see our sexual appetite as a good gift from God to be used wisely for enhancing marriage.

By viewing our sexuality in a Christian manner, we will honor God, demonstrate maturity, and contribute to a dependable and responsible society.

Failing to harness our sexuality will cause our culture to disintegrate.

If you are a Christian and having difficulty with lust, then turn to Christ.

Return to the basics of following Christ and his teachings for a rich and satisfying view of your sexual needs.

Following Jesus is following “The Way”.

The way to life, God and a fruit filled life which is followed by living with God in His Kingdom.

And that life is forever.