

An aerial photograph of a busy crosswalk with white stripes on a dark asphalt surface. Several pedestrians are walking across the crosswalk, and their long shadows are cast across the stripes. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

# LAST DAYS LIVING

A STUDY IN I & II THESSALONIANS



**“Pleasing God with Our Purity”  
(Part II)**

**I THESSALONIANS 4:3b**



- Lot offering his daughters for the sexual pleasures of the men of the town (Gen 19)
- Laban using Leah's sexuality for financial gain (Gen 29)
- Shechem raping Dinah (Gen 34)
- Reuben taking his father's concubine, Bilhah, for himself and his father having a concubine to begin with (Gen 35)

## **Sexual Sin in Genesis – Men Against Women**



- Ham embarrassing his drunk and naked father  
Noah (Gen 9)
- The men of Sodom wanting to have sex with  
Lot's male guests – maybe angels (Gen 19)

## **Sexual Sin in Genesis – Men Against Men**



- Sarah making her servant Hagar sleep with her husband Abraham so she can create a surrogate womb for herself  
(Gen 16)
- Leah doing the same with her servant Zilpah

**Sexual Sin in Genesis – Women Against Women**



- Lot's daughters getting their father drunk so they can sleep with him and conceive children (Gen 19)
- Tamar seducing Judah – her father-in-law – so she can get pregnant (Gen 38)
- Potiphar's wife trying to get Joseph to sleep with her (Gen 39)

## **Sexual Sin in Genesis – Women Against Men**



I. The Put Off (vs. 3)

II. The Put On (vs. 4-8)

A. How? (vs. 4-6a)

B. Why? (vs. 6b-8)



## **KEY POINT:**

**We please God by separating  
ourselves from sexual sin.**



- How can we measure our sanctification?

By abstaining from sexual immorality.

**The Put Off (vs. 3)**



*19 Or do you not know that your  
body is a temple of the Holy Spirit  
within you, whom you have from  
God? You are not your own,  
20 for you were bought with a price.  
So glorify God in your body.*

**I Corinthians 6:19-20**



- Teens for sexual favors
- Mistresses, concubines, female sexual slaves
- Prostitutes over wives
- Sex slaves for entertainment
- Favorable sexual pleasure outside of marriage

## **Sexual Immorality in the Roman Empire**



*Let marriage be held in honor  
among all, and let the marriage  
bed be undefiled,  
for God will judge the sexually  
immoral and adulterous.*

**Hebrews 13:4**



1. Sex outside of marriage	Exod 20:14; Matt 19:17-18; Rom 13:9; Jas 2:10-11
2. Economic prostitution	Lev 19:29; Prov 6:25-26
3. Homosexuality	Lev 18:22; Rom 1:26-27
4. Bestiality	Lev 18:23-24; Deut 27:21
5. Incest	Lev 18:6; Gen 11:29; 20:12
6. Pedophilia	
7. Sexual violence	Gen 2:24; Eph 5:25
8. Inner adultery	Matt 5:28; Exod 20:17
9. Gender confusion	Deut 22:5
10. Sex during a woman's period	Lev 18:19; 20:18
11. Unbiblical Divorce	Mark 10:11
12. Immodesty	Rom 14:21; I Tim 2:9-10

## 12 Sexual Prohibitions in the Bible



*<sup>9</sup> Or do you not know that the unrighteous will  
not inherit the kingdom of God?  
Do not be deceived: neither the sexually  
immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers,  
nor men who practice homosexuality,  
<sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the greedy,  
nor drunkards, nor revilers,  
nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.*

**I Corinthians 6:9-10**



- “to hold back” – like abstaining from a vote
- “to be away, to be distant” – how it is being used in I

Thessalonians - Matthew 14:24; 15:8; Mark 7:6

**The Word “*Abstain*”**



*But put on the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and make no provision for the  
flesh, to gratify its desires.*

**Romans 13:14**



*Do not enter the path of the  
wicked, and do not walk in the way  
of the evil. Avoid it; do not go on it;  
turn away from it and pass on.*

**Proverbs 4:14-15**



*But sexual immorality and all  
impurity or covetousness must not  
even be named among you,  
as is proper among saints.*

**Ephesians 5:3**



*<sup>14</sup> But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. <sup>15</sup> Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.*

**James 1:14-15**



1. Internal sinful desires are stirred up (vs. 14).
2. Lust is conceived (vs. 15a).
3. The lust becomes visible (vs. 15b).
4. Sin brings death (vs. 15c).

## From Temptation to Sin



“Unthinkingly, without measuring, filtering, or processing, we expose our minds to that which, were we thinking, would be unthinkable. And each time – gradually, subtly, imperceptibly – we surrender just a little more mental and moral turf to anti-Christian values. Our circle of holiness shrinks a smidgen more, and the hard fought gains from spiritual disciplines, meditation, and prayer dissipate until one day we wake up morally bankrupt... or we do not wake up at all.”



**Randy Alcorn**  
***Christians in the Wake of the  
Sexual Revolution***



“Lord Jesus, I sin. Grant that I may never cease grieving because of it, never be content with myself, never think I can reach a point of perfection. Kill my envy, command my tongue, trample down self. Give me grace to be holy, kind, gentle, pure, peaceable, to live for Thee and not for self, to copy Thy words, acts, spirit, to be transformed into Thy likeness, to be consecrated wholly to Thee, to live entirely to Thy glory. Deliver me from attachment to things unclean, from wrong associations, from the predominance of evil passions, from the sugar...

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...of sin as well as its gall; that with self-loathing, deep contrition, earnest heart searching I may come to Thee, cast myself on Thee, trust in Thee, cry to Thee, be delivered by Thee. O God, the Eternal All, help me to know that all things are shadows, but Thou art substance, all things are quicksands, but Thou art mountain, all things are shifting, but Thou art anchor, all things are ignorance, but Thou art wisdom. If my life is to be a crucible amid burning heat, so be it, but do Thou sit at...

***Valley of Vision***



...the furnace mouth to watch the ore that nothing be lost. If I sin willfully, grievously, tormentedly, in grace take away my mourning and give me music; remove my sackcloth and clothe me with beauty; still my sighs and fill my mouth with song, then give me summer weather as a Christian.”

***Valley of Vision***