

“His Word is Truth”

In my last article I used Scripture to show how God is merciful and is willing to forgive every and any sin for the sake of His Son who died in our place of punishment.



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However, we also learned that if we are proud of our sin and see no need to be forgiven for it, then we reject God's mercy and remain under His wrath. This is why God warns us with His judgment so that we humble ourselves before Him, agree with Him that our sin is evil and then trust in His Son for mercy and for the strength to live according to His loving will for our lives.

Sadly, we live in a culture where many AFFIRM evil desires and behaviors which God's Word clearly CONDEMNS – *and this is especially the case in matters of sexuality*! Scripture is clear that sex is a good gift from God that is reserved for marriage between one MAN and one WOMAN. (See Genesis 1:27-28 & 2:24) In Matthew 19:1-12 Jesus clearly teaches that marriage is God's institution and that it is for one MAN and one WOMAN. God's gift of sex is reserved for marriage ONLY – and the only other option is CELIBACY.

However, in today's American culture many have rejected God's Word on the issue of sexuality and now celebrate all forms of evil sexual behavior outside of biblical marriage. God condemns “**fornication**” (*sex between a man and woman who are not married*) and **adultery** and **lustful thoughts or desires** for a person who is not one's spouse (*which*

is why pornography is an evil condemned by God!) as well as all forms of **same-sex behavior**.

In 1st Thessalonians 4:3-8 the apostle Paul writes the following: “**It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.**”

Here we see that if we AFFIRM the evil that God condemns we reject His Holy Spirit and remain under God's just wrath.

The good news is that we can come to God with all our sinful sexual desires, thoughts, words and deeds and He will forgive us for the sake of His Son and then help us to resist the desires of our sinful nature and live according to His will for our sexuality – which is 1) being single and celibate or 2) engaging in God's gift of sex within marriage between one MAN and one WOMAN. If we do fall into sexual sin during a moment of weakness, we can come to God with that sin and He will forgive us, restore us and help us to do better. (See Romans 7:14 – 8:1, Galatians 5:16-25 and 1st John 1:7 – 2:2)