Christian Liberty

and Sexual Temptation

I. Why this topic in a series on Christian liberty?

A. There is incredible confusion and compromise about sexuality.

B. In the exercise of our liberty, the greater the potential for good in an area, the greater the potential for harm.

Know your boundaries





IllinoisPhoto.com







‘Life is short. Have an affair’.

Ashley Madison

Can a man take fire in his bosom, And his clothes not be burned? Or can a man walk on hot coals, And his feet not be scorched? So is the one who goes in to his neighbor's wife; Whoever touches her will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 6:27

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

“Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.”

1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

"For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; and that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is the avenger in all these things..."

II. How do we resist sexual temptation?

A. King David

1) 2 Samuel 5:13 “Desensitization”

Deut. 17:17 "Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away....”

2) 2 Sam 11:1 “Relaxation”

a) David was not where he was supposed to be.

b) He didn’t have his armor on. Eph. 6:11

c) He had time on his hands. Eph. 5:15-17

d) He had won many victories. 1Cor. 10:12

3) 2 Sam 11:2 “Fixation”

“... from the roof he saw a woman bathing...”

Job 31:1 "I have made a covenant with my eyes; How then could I gaze at a virgin?”

4) 2 Sam. 11:3 “Rationalization”

“So David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, ‘Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?’”

5) 2 Sam. 11: 4,5 “Degeneration”

“And David sent messengers and took her, and when she came to him, he lay with her;”

Vs 5 And the woman conceived; and she sent and told David, and said, "I am pregnant."

James 1:14-15 “But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.”

Num. 32:23 “...Be sure that your sin will find you out.”

B. Joseph Genesis 39

His response to temptation:

vs 9 “How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?”

vs 12 Sorry Mrs P, but I’m out a here!

We need to chose to flee rather than to fall.

God says there are some things we need to run from:

- Immorality 1Cor. 6:18
- Idolatry 1Cor. 10:14
- Envy 1 Tim. 6:11
- Youthful lusts 2 Tim. 2:22

1 Corinthians 10:13

- “No temptation has overtaken you
- but such as is common to man;
- and God is faithful,
- who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able,
- but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.”

III. Practical Applications

A. Make no provision for the flesh. Rom 13:14

B. When tempted, I need to ask: “How does what Satan is offering me compare with all the love and blessing and joy I have in Christ?”

C. Follow 2 Timothy 2:22

"Flee from youthful lusts (separate from), and pursue (separate to) righteousness, faith, love, and peace with those who call on the Lord with a pure heart."

D. Don’t think about the temptation, think about the consequences.