**SS, Marriage, M&F, A Biblical View of Sex** 4/2/23

1. **Sex in the Creation Account**
2. **Genesis 1**
3. The sexual relationship between husband and wife, one male and one female, is viewed as central from the very beginning.
4. God’s assessment of sex, as he designed it, is that it was “VERY GOOD”. *Sex helps believers to understand the intimacy with which Christ views us, the delight with which he engages us, and the pleasure he has in our being delighted with him. It also relates to his purpose to use us in “creating” image-bearers.*
5. **Genesis 2**
6. **“ONE FLESH”**
7. In marriage, a man and a woman enter into **a total sharing of life**
8. The fact that this “one flesh” union involves and includes sexual union is explicit in 1Co 6:16.
9. **“(THEY) WERE BOTH NAKED AND WERE NOT ASHAMED”**
10. God’s intention was not that the human community would live in nakedness.
11. God’s intention was not that the husband and wife should immediately be clothed.
12. It may be that the main point of this statement (v25) is to create a backdrop for what is about to be disclosed in Gen 3:7, *“then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked”.*
13. **Sex in the Fall Account**

From Genesis 3 on, sex will function as something of a barometer of what is going in other aspects of the husband/wife relationship. Eve’s sin, and Adam’s subsequent transgression had nothing to do with sex per se. But their sin resulted in immediate consequences for their sexual relationship.

1. **Sex in Genesis-** Procreative (Enjoyed as a good gift); Polygamy; Rape; Homosexuality; Incest; Adultery. **APPLICATION QUESTION:** What drives sexual sin more than anything else? **Jer. 2:13**
2. **Sex in OT Narrative-** Throughout the OT, God’s redemptive plan unfolds, in large measure, by way of sex and procreation. The Promised One will come through people like Abraham & Sarah, and likewise through folks like Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and Bathsheba. What grabs the headlines, however, is sexual sin: David; Solomon
3. **Sex in Proverbs-** Proverbs warns repeatedly about the dangers of sexual immorality. In doing so, however, it also speaks very positively about the sexual life of the husband and wife. Prov. 5:15-21: *Rejoice with, be satisfied with, be exhilarated and delight in*
4. **Sex in the Song of Solomon-** This book, found in the Wisdom Literature, provides a sustained narrative poem on Prov. 5:18-19. Throughout the entire 8 chapters, the physical and emotional delight of a healthy God-given sexual union between a husband and wife is on display. 1:2; 2:3, 6, 14; 4:9, 14; 5:1
5. **Sex in the Teaching of Jesus**
6. **Matthew 5:27-32**
7. Sexual immorality is most fundamentally a sin of the HEART.
8. Heaven and hell are at stake in whether we habitually indulge or resist immoral sexual impulses. Thus, we must be willing to take serious practical steps to avoid sin.
9. Jesus underscores the gravity of sexual immorality by citing it as a ground for divorce.
10. **Matthew 19:3-12**
11. Jesus affirms that the one-flesh union is what God has joined together.
12. Jesus underscores the gravity of sexual immorality.
13. **Matt. 22:30-** *For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.* Sex is not the main thing. Sex is not forever.
14. **Sex in the Teaching of Paul- 1Co 7:1-5**
15. The challenges of “the present distress” (v26) were such that the apostle thought it wiser for believers to remain celibate (v1).
16. Yet, he recognized the immense challenges of sexual temptation (v2) and thus encouraged marriage. Thus, one of the basic reasons for marriage, in this fallen world, is to provide a remedy for and protection against sexual temptation.
17. More than anything else, this passage underscores the other-oriented, self-giving nature of sex as God designed it. Sex is not about what I want, what I need, or what I demand. It is about ministering to my spouse. How can I serve? How can I protect?
18. **Sex in the Teaching of Hebrews- 13:4**
19. **Sex as an Illustration of the Relationship between Christ and his Bride**