

look of the eye (2Samuel 11:2; Judges 14:2). If, on the other hand, "your eye be single your whole body will be full of light" (Matt. 6:22). There is a need for each of us to make a covenant with our eyes (Job 31:1).

The Devastation of Sexual Lust -- Sin will always take you further than you intend to go; it will always keep you longer than you intend to stay; and it will always make you pay more than you intend to pay. The wages of lust is more lust. If you sow a thought, you reap an action. If you sow an action you reap a lifestyle. If you sow a lifestyle, you reap a destiny (Galatians 6:7,8; Galatians 5:16 -- 21). The Bible describes those who give in to perverted sexual lust as one who is an "ox going to the slaughter" or "a fool to the correction of the stocks" (Prov. 7:22,23). A man in bondage to sensuality eventually loses his "honor," "wealth," and "health" (Prov. 5:9-12). He doesn't realize that his so-called sexual freedom is leading him into the paths of the dead and to sheol (hell) (Prov. 5:4,5).

The Uncontrollable Fire of Sexual Lust -- We can't flame the fires of sexual lust through magazines, TV, rock music, etc. and expect to maintain moral freedom in our thought life. We are to "flee youthful lusts" (2Tim. 2:22), not stir them up. If a man feeds his mind with sensual thoughts, he will stir up sexual desires that demand fulfillment. God has warned we should make no provision for the flesh (Rom. 13:14). The only way to maintain self-control is to bring every thought immediately captive to Christ (2Cor. 10:4,5). If we hesitate when we are facing temptation we will find that the "spirit is willing but the flesh is weak" (Matt. 26:41). The man who feeds his sensual fleshly desires will be overcome by them (Rom. 8:5-8). We must understand that if we bring fire close to our bosom, we will indeed be burned (Prov. 6:27). If we allow these lustful sensual thoughts to continue, we will one day find ourselves in bondage with the cords of our own sins (Prov. 5:23). We are told to not come near the door of sensuality (Prov. 5:8; 7:25). The wisest man (Solomon -- 1Kings 11:1-40), the strongest man (Samson-- Judges 16), and the man after God's own heart (David -- 2Samuel 11) each fell prey to the failure of sensuality because they didn't guard their heart (Prov. 4:23).

Freedom Comes through the Truth -- Jesus said: "... you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). Every time we are tempted with unclean thoughts we must cast them down with the truth of God's word (Matt. 4:4,7,10; Eph. 6:17). It is not enough to simply quote a Bible verse. We must quote the verse with understanding of its meaning and truth (1Cor. 14:15). Satan knows if we are merely going through the religious ritual of quoting scripture. He can still defeat us with temptation. It is the truth of the Bible verse that sets a man free. There are two keys in discovering the truth of scripture: 1) ask God the Holy Spirit to open your eyes (1Cor. 2:9-12; Eph. 1:15-21; Colossians 1:9), 2) learn to meditate on God's word (Psalm 1; Joshua 1:8).

The honor, respect, love, and protection of women can only be maintained as we turn from the horrors of the philosophy of hedonistic pleasure through pornography and embrace the wonderful truths of God's design for the home, marriage, and intimacy!

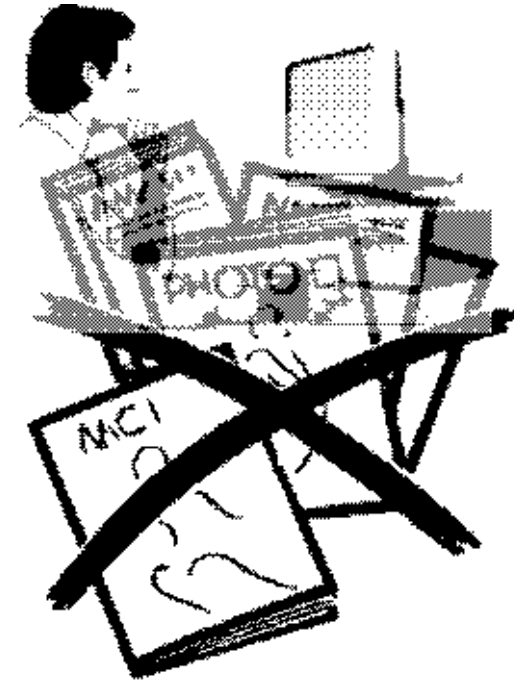
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God's Design for the Covering of Nakedness -- God has put within the conscience of all men the innate sense of modesty and proper covering of nakedness. Who instructed Adam and Eve to clothe themselves after they had sinned? They did it on their own initiative (Genesis 3:7). God further emphasized the covering of nakedness when He Himself made clothes for them (Genesis 3:21). Because of sin's entrance into the human race, pure and genuine love has been lost, and the potential for exploitation has come. Something happened to man's heart. It became "...deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" (Jer. 17:9) capable of selfishly using others only for its own personal gain and pleasure. Rather than man having the natural desire to protect, love, and shepherd women; the sinful heart of man, apart from God's grace, is given to the exploitation of women for its own selfish fulfillment. God's covering for their nakedness was from animal skins that necessitated the shedding of blood. God was revealing from the beginning of man's existence the need for man's sins to be forgiven by a blood sacrifice which was ultimately accomplished by the shedding of Christ's blood at Calvary's cross. Man needs to receive Christ's salvation (John 8:31, 32) if he is to have the proper attitude, respect, and love for women. Pornography shows women in scenes of subordination, degradation, and humiliation which has caused a dramatic increase in women being raped, attacked, beaten, and even murdered. Women are portrayed as objects for a man's sexual gratification. Pornography gives the impression that all women enjoy being seduced even involving hurtful physical aggression. Oh that God would give each of us, today, eyes to see the devastation of pornography and the immodesty of clothing that abounds today in our society.

General Biblical Principles of Modesty -- God further emphasizes proper clothing and attire of the body especially within the context of the home and family in Leviticus 18. One of Noah's sons experienced a curse in his lineage because he looked upon his father's nakedness (Genesis 9:22-25). Not being properly clothed and nakedness were associated with demonic activity (Luke 18:27). Improper immodest covering of the body is described in Proverbs 7:10 as the "attire of a harlot." It should also be noted that the proper covering of the body should maintain sexual distinctions (Deut. 22:5; 1Cor. 11:1-16).

God's Design for Physical Oneness -- The physical union of a man and woman is described in the Bible as a man "knowing" his wife (Genesis 4:1). A fulfilling physical oneness is built upon the foundation of a spiritual, psychological, and emotional oneness of a husband and wife (1Peter 3:7). This can only take place in the context of the commitment of marriage. God never intended the sexual act to be exclusively for the recreational pleasure of two consenting adults outside the bounds of marriage. He warns that those who engage in sexual activity outside of these bounds will experience His judgment (Hebrews 13:4). "Pornography encourages sexual activity with pleasure and personal gratification as its only goal and no responsibility. Pornography leaves the impression that sex has no relationship to privacy, that it is unrelated to love, commitment, or marriage, . . . and that there is no adverse circumstances -- no venereal diseases, divorces, or moral decay" (David Hocking).

Crime and Pornography -- Many think that the reading material of individuals is a private matter and should not be interfered with by laws that restrict the sale of pornography. But God warns that there will be violence in the land when men's minds are filled with immorality (Genesis 6:1-13; Leviticus 19:29). Whatever filth goes into the mind comes out in the life (Prov. 23:7). Many criminals have testified to the fact that an addiction to pornography has led them to rape and murder women and children. Thousands of children are kidnapped and sexually abused each year because of the activities promoted in the child pornography industry. Incest in the home has become a

major problem because of the perversion of men's thoughts fueled by pornography. Jesus gave a very severe warning to those who engage in the abuse of children (Matt. 18:1-9). It is very significant that His warning is almost identical to the one He gave concerning sexual lust in Matthew 5:27-32).

Pornography and Youth -- A great quantity of the pornographic publications eventually end up in the hands of young people. Their minds are corrupted with a distorted view of sex, marriage, and the morals of society. Those who make, sell, or distribute these materials will be held accountable by God for the damage and destruction that is done to the lives of these youth (Prov. 1:9,10). Oh that men would heed the severe warning of Christ: "but whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depths of the sea (Matt. 18:6). Many young people have perverted and distorted views of sex and marriage because of their exposure to pornography. In many cases their initial exposure came through the access they had to pornography on the internet, in their own homes, or neighborhoods through the irresponsibility of adults around them. God will hold those who have contributed to this downfall of minors accountable.

Pornography and Financial Gain -- Pornography is big business bringing in lots of money for many people, but it is at the expense of the great destruction of many lives. The kidnappings, rapes, murders, diseases, breakups in marriage, etc. are many times linked with those who are users of pornography. Those who are involved in this industry are "greedy of gain" and don't care that they destroy and ruin the lives of the users of these materials. God describes them in Prov. 1:10-19: "My son, if sinners entice you, consent thou not. [11] If they say, come with us, ... we shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil: [14] cast in thy lot among us; let us all have our purse: [15] my son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain your foot from their path. ... [19] So are the ways of everyone that is greedy of gain; which takes away the life of the owners thereof." Let me emphasize again that God will hold those who make, sell, or distribute these materials accountable! The riches of evil will, one day, testify against you in the Day of Judgment (James 5:1-2). In 1Thessalonians 4:6 God warns those who are guilty of "defrauding" will be certainly judged by God. Defrauding is stirring up the sensual desires of another person and alluring them to satisfy those desires outside the boundaries that God has established within the marriage bond.

God's Judgment of Immoral Sensual Activities -- Fornication (premarital sex) (1Cor. 6:9,10), adultery (Exodus 20:14), rape (Deut. 22:23-27), Sodomy (homosexuality) (Leviticus 18:22), incest (Leviticus 18:6-18), and bestiality (Exodus 22:19) are all condemned by God. Those who continue in such activities and lifestyle with no repentance will not inherit the kingdom of God (1Cor. 6:9,10; Galatians 5:19-21; Revelation 21:8). We are responsible to God for every thought, word, and deed (2Cor. 10:4,5; 2Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:33-37). There are both temporal and eternal consequences for violating God's laws of morality.

Jesus' Instruction Concerning Lustful Thoughts -- "You have heard that it was said by them of old, you shall not commit adultery: [28] but I say unto you, that whosoever looks on a woman to lust after her has committed adultery with her already in his heart. [29] And if your right eye offend you, pluck it out, and cast it far from you: for it is profitable for you that one of your members should perish, and not that your whole body should be cast into hell." Jesus clearly reveals that the sins of adultery and fornication can be committed in the thought life. Furthermore, He gives a strong warning to take extreme measures if necessary to prevent this sin from continuing in your life. Those who fall to immorality begin their downward moral destruction with a