

The Crooked and Perverse Generation

By Doug Hamilton

III. Marriage and Sex Through the Eyes of the Crooked and Perverse Generation

A. The Biblical View of Marriage and Sex

The Bible says much about marriage, but for the parameters of the lesson we must focus on a primary passage of Genesis chapter 2 and 3. Concerning marriage there are three thoughts to bear in mind to understand the Biblical view.

1) Singular in Number.

- The scripture does not say Adam and Steve or Madam and Eve, but Adam and Eve. There was ONE man and ONE woman from the beginning. There was not two men and three women or one man and four women, but One Man/One Woman.
- Later on under the Law of Moses, if a man was foolish and wealthy enough, he could have multiple wives. There was also the rule of the “Kinsman Redeemer” in the Law (Dt 25:5-10) when a brother might marry his brother’s widow. Under the Christian covenant, the original rule applied, Singular in Number”
 - This is what Jesus recognized, for He said, “*He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE* (MT 19:4; MK 10:6).
 - This was a quality in which a church was to identify in the selection of her leaders. (1 Tim 3:2 *the husband of one wife*).
 - This was a respected quality of the “*widow indeed*” (1 Tim 5:9 “*having been the wife of one man*”).
- The “gold-standard” concerning the plan of marriage is singular in number. This is a biblical perspective.

2) Defined Leadership.

- In any group of two people, there can be only one leader and one follower. Any variation in the formula eliminates both titles, for a leader without followers is not a leader. The pattern of leadership in the marriage clearly states the man is to be the leader and the woman the follower. It does not imply that a woman cannot be a professor of men in the secular realm, or a CEO, or an officer in the military or as President of the United States. In the Christian family and the Christian assembly, she is a follower.
- Paul addressed this in *1 Tim 2:12-14 But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.*¹³ *For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve.*¹⁴ *And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.* Adam was the first of the two created. He received the command before the woman was even present (Gen 2:16-17), giving him the responsibility to be a leader. When it was time to exercise that leadership, Adam stood by and yielded to the follower. *Genesis 3:6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise,*

The Crooked and Perverse Generation

By Doug Hamilton

she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. Their respected roles were violated and mankind was plunged into sin.

- What if the man does not want to be the spiritual leader of his family? What if the woman does not want to yield to her husband's leadership role? In both cases it is sin in the eyes of God and must be rectified. The Biblical perspective is for paternal leadership and maternal "followship".

3) Tri-fold Nature.

- It says of the first marriage in *Genesis 2:24 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.*
 - It is a Family Relationship: *leave mother and father.* Together with a new spouse they are to be viewed as a new family in the eyes of God. The children are an extension of the family, but are expected to someday start a family of their own. We are not to allow in-laws, out-laws, co-workers, employers, children, friends or any other human relationships to come between the husband and wife.
 - It is a Life-long Relationship: *cleave unto his wife.* The word Jesus used in Matthew 19 was a carpentry term referring to the gluing together of two pieces of wood in making a piece of furniture. It was fastened for life, just like the marriage was intended by God. The word divorce should never be uttered by Christian couples, for it is contradictory to the scriptures.
 - It is a Sexual Relationship: *one flesh.* Paul said 1 Cor 6:16 *Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body with her? For He says, "THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH."* Marriage is expected to address the sexual needs of men and women. It aids them from living immoral lives in contradiction to God's calling.
 - *1 Cor 7:2 But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband.*
 - *1 Cor 7:5 come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.*
 - *1 Cor 7:9 But if they do not have self-control, let them marry; for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.*
 - What is immorality which Paul spoke of in 7:2? The Greek word is *pornea*, from which we derive the English word *pornography*. If moral sex is that which is between a married man and his wife, then anything else is immorality, hence *pornea*. Immorality includes, but is not limited to sex before marriage, homosexuality, lesbianism, adultery, bestiality, prostitution, necrophilia, phone-sex, Internet sex chat rooms, sexting, lewd comments, Internet Porn or porno magazines.

The Crooked and Perverse Generation

By Doug Hamilton

- Paul said in 1 Corinthians 6:18 *Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.* Immorality is unique from all other sins in that it takes something beautiful, acceptable and part of the tri-fold marriage covenant and makes it ugly, unacceptable and a destroyer of the highest covenant afforded on earth.
- Immorality is the only exception for which Jesus allowed for dissolving of the marital covenant (Matthew 19:9 i.e. divorce). It is not for the exceptions of bad cooking, bad hair, bad breath, bad looks, bad attitude or bad finances, but “*except for immorality*”.
- Sex is part of the marriage covenant, but not with whatever imaginative frolicking we can invent. One Man, One Woman, with Monogamy and Life-long Intent. That is what God honors.

The Biblical view of marriage and sex is singular in number, defined in leadership and tri-fold in nature. It does not take a Solomon to figure it out, but simply and open mind in the Bible.

B. The Worldview of Marriage and Sex

1) Marital Inconvenience

- a. We used to hold marriage in high regard in the United States. That is because we tended to base our actions on Biblical thought. If the Bible said marriage was good, then people sought that in their lives. In 1920, the national marriage rate in our nation was 92.3%. After years of God-hating attacks on faith in our media and by our politicians, our national marriage rate is only 31% as of 2013.
- b. In the last fifty years our national cohabitation rates have increased twelve-fold (1960-2010).
- c. Presently in the US the average marriage age for women has reached an all-time high of twenty-seven. Why has it gone so high? The world teaches us that the career is more important than marriage and children.
- d. It seems the group most enthused about marriage in our country are the gays. “Same-sex Marriage” has been legalized in 19 states and the District of Columbia. Rogue judges and politicians have politicked their unscriptural positions on the nation. We are swallowing it hook, line and sinker.

2) Relations Gone Wild

- a. According to a Herald survey released January 2014, the average person in our country reaching age thirty has already had more than 8 sexual partners. Countries in Europe who have an earlier jump on secularization is often double that number. In Ireland, for example, the number of partners by age thirty is 20.

The Crooked and Perverse Generation

By Doug Hamilton

- b. Homosexual relations among males far surpass the heterosexuals in number of partners. One study showed that 28% of homosexual males have had more than 1,000 partners (Bell and Weinberg 308). 79% of homosexual men claim at least half of the partners are complete strangers (Bell and Weinberg 308-309). Heterosexuals have fidelity rate around 80%. Homosexual relationships boast only 4.5% monogamy (Lauman, The Social Organization of Sexuality 216). Monogamy is understood in the gay community to be ten or less partners per year.
- c. Internet porn has grown rapidly in our country. 50% of all teenage boys regularly entertain themselves with porn. Sexual predators are out in full-force. 40% of teenage girls have already been sexually assaulted through Internet encounters (ANI Oct. 30, 2013).
- d. Through all this the world glorifies the behavior as complete joy with no natural consequences. Nothing could be further from the truth.

3) Devastating Consequences

The consequences of these immoral sexual acts are devastating. Some of the statistics from the American Sexual Health Association are as follows.

- a. One out of 20 people in the United States will get infected with hepatitis B (HBV) sometime during their lives. Hepatitis B is 100 times more infectious than HIV. HBV is linked to chronic liver disease, including cirrhosis and liver cancer.
- b. It is estimated that as many as one in five Americans have genital herpes. Some estimates suggest that by 2025 up to 40% of all men and half of all women in our nation could be infected with it.
- c. Each year, there are almost 3 million new cases of chlamydia.
- d. At least 15 percent of all American women who are infertile can attribute it to tubal damage caused by pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), the result of an untreated STD.
- e. One half of all babies born in our country are to unwed mothers. 2/3s of all women reaching 30 years of age will have already had a child out of wedlock.
- f. Despite continual bombardment of our culture the importance of “safe-sex”, our nation still averages 50,000 new cases of HIV every year.
- g. The World Health Organization states that 448 million people worldwide are infected yearly with an STD.
- h. Tens of thousands of deaths through Hepatitis C, hundreds of thousands of death through AIDS and countless millions of broken hearts from betrayed relationships that did not work; that is just in our country. Worldwide there are tens of millions dying from AIDS in the nations of Africa and Asia.

The Crooked and Perverse Generation

By Doug Hamilton

C) How can we shine as lights in the world?

1) Beware!

- 1 Peter 5:8 Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
- With all the sex and perversion around us, it is so easy to become desensitized to it all. We must be on guard against this subtlety of sin.

2) Be committed!

- Jesus said in Mt 5:28 that everyone who looks upon a woman and lusts in his heart has committed adultery of the heart. We must be committed to fight these tendencies.
- Job made a covenant with his eyes that he would not look upon the virgin (31:1). We must understand as James says in 1:14-15 about being swept away in our lusts. We must resist the devil and he will flee from us. We must be committed to what is right in the eyes of God.

3) Be pure!

- Jesus spoke in *Matthew 5:8* “*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*” To be pure is to keep yourself clean on the inside. We need to make sure not only to drive out that which is bad, but to bring in that which is good. We must “*...flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart* (2 Timothy 2:22). Make it your goal to be pure.