

“The Lust of the Flesh”

Scripture: 1 John 2:16-17 “For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. 17 The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.”

Introduction:

The lust of the flesh is what I want to discuss today. Our world is filled with everything from billboards to movies that promote filling your sexual desires. I got a real awakening about this when I worked for General Dynamics in Groton Connecticut. Some of the guys I worked with wanted to go out to eat and I went along with them. It wasn't till I walked in the door that I realized they had brought me to a strip club. Instant shame filled my heart for being in such a place, even though I had not went on my own volition. Over in the corner was a young girl in her twenties I would say dancing around a bunch of men sitting in chairs watching her, while foaming at the mouth.

I was embarrassed for the young lady who had sold herself out for a few dollars. Those men were sitting there violating this girl in their hearts and it all made me sick. I pushed the guys I was with so much they left and took me home.

This girl had forgot that her body was a temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19-20) and those men failed to realize that their eyes are lamps for their bodies (Matt. 6:22).

Another time, I was at boiler inspection school in Saint Louis and we wrapped up and were checking out of the Hotel when my boss said “OK who bought the porn movies?” A friend of mine who is a married man stepped up and said they were his and paid for them.

At preachers school some of my student friends their admitted and were caught indulging in pornography. Even King David in the bible let his eyes stray and lead him into sin with Bathsheba.

READ: James 1:13-15 “Let no one say when he is tempted, " I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. 15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.”

Lesson:

I. Tempted when enticed by our own lust

- A. Temptation is when desire and willingness are close at hand
- B. Temptation to do the wrong thing happens when our desire turns to lust

-Lust is a deep craving or longing for what is forbidden

C. Why would anyone want what God forbids?

-A void in their lives

-Hurtful past

-Trying to hide

-Trying to self medicate

*Satan is trying to kill them 1 John 2:16

II. Sin happens when desire turns to lust

A. Matthew 5:28 “but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart”

-C.S. Lewis puts it like this “If a man looks lustfully upon ham and eggs he has already committed breakfast in his heart.”

B. Lust is the point where desire has meet with action in the mind

-The point where a person starts taking off another persons clothes or even engaging in sexual sins in their mind.

*Its no wonder that Jesus says if your eye causes you to sin to pluck it out (Matt 18:9)

C. When lust has conceived

*Interesting analogy of conception

-Egg.....Planted by Satan

-Seed.....Our thoughts...Everyone is doing it

-Fertile soil.....A heart willing to sin

D. We can stop ourselves

-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, so that you will be able to endure it”

III. Unchecked Death is the Result

-2 Peter 2:19 “promising them freedom while they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved.”

*Addiction comes into view

-Thriving in secrecy

-Regarding sexual lust it leads to objectively viewing people

-Brethren people are not objects!

Conclusion:

-Confess

1 John 1:9

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. NASU

Psalms 32:3-6

*3 When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away
Through my groaning all day long.*

4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;

My vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer. Selah.

5 I acknowledged my sin to You,

And my iniquity I did not hide;

I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the Lord";

And You forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah.

6 Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found;

Surely in a flood of great waters they will not reach him."

-Arrest bad thoughts.....

2 Corinthians 10:5

"We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,"

-Live by the Spirit.....

Galatians 5:16

16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

-Make Covenant.....

Job 31:1

1 Job Asserts His Integrity

"I have made a covenant with my eyes;

How then could I gaze at a virgin?"

-Fill heart with God.....

Matthew 12:43-45

43 " Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and does not find it. 44 "Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came'; and when it comes, it finds it unoccupied, swept, and put in order. 45 "Then it goes and takes along with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first. That is the way it will also be with this evil generation."

-Resist the Devil.....

James 4:7

7 Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

*Accountability.....

James 5:16

16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.”