

## The Song of Songs

### LESSON 3: WHY DOES IT EXIST? THE NEED FOR A REDEEMED SEXUALITY

#### Intro:

**WARNING:**  
Viewer Discretion is Advised.

BIG IDEA: The Bible gives us a vision for a \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ sexuality.

<sup>25</sup> And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed. **Genesis 2**

- They were \_\_\_\_\_ and in each other's company.
- They felt no \_\_\_\_\_. They were \_\_\_\_\_ with each other.
- This is about the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
- God made them, and us, as \_\_\_\_\_ beings able to give & receive \_\_\_\_\_.
- Sex was intended to be enjoyed in the context of \_\_\_\_\_.

“God loves sex. He conceived, created, and blessed the process by which our bodies knew and are known through desire, arousal, foreplay, intercourse, orgasm and rest.”<sup>18</sup>



After they sinned ...

<sup>18</sup> Allender, Dan and Tremper Longman. *God Loves Sex: An Honest Conversation about Sexual Desire and Holiness*. Grand Rapids, Baker Books. 2014. pp.1.

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<sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. **Genesis 3**

- Suddenly they are \_\_\_\_\_, uncomfortable in one another’s company.
- As sinners, they could not \_\_\_\_\_ one another in such a \_\_\_\_\_ position.
- Their \_\_\_\_\_ hearts now disordered \_\_\_\_\_ and marriage.



“...their shame in each other’s presence is focused on that area of their bodies which fundamentally differentiates them. They are threatened by the possibility of exploitation.” **Tom Gledhill**<sup>19</sup>

**OT Disorders of Sex & Marriage**

<b>Sexual Distortions</b>	<b>Marriage Distortions</b>
Adultery- death penalty	Divorce
Pre-marital sex: restitution to her family. If you marry there is no possibility of divorce	Polygamy- regulated in OT but seen as an aberration and creating problems in the lives of the practitioners.
Rape- death penalty	Concubines
Homosexual acts- death penalty	Harems for kings- warned against but common
Incest- death penalty	
Bestiality- death penalty	
Prostitution	
Promiscuity	
Sex in idol worship	
“Date rape” (Habakkuk 2:15)	

**NT Disorders of Sex** (things explicitly mentioned)  
 All of the above  
 Orgies (group sex)

<sup>19</sup> Gledhill, pp. 173,

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Caesarea Philippi

## Extrabiblical Disorders of Sex & Marriage

Sexual Distortions	Marriage Distortions
Masturbation	Polyamory- _____ relationships and families.
Pornography (\$ _____ billion/year business)	Gay marriage
Bondage	_____ marriage-
Addictions	“Christian _____”
Gender confusion	
Exhibitionism-	
_____ tapes	
Fetishism	
Frigidity (sexual anorexia or avoidance)	



“I am happy now that Charles calls on my bed-chamber less frequently than of old. As it is, I now endure but two calls a week, and when I hear his steps outside my door, I lie down on my bed, close my eyes, open my legs, and think of England.” **Lady Hillingdon**, British aristocrat of the Victorian era<sup>20</sup>

### Why all of this sexual disorder?

<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, <sup>25</sup> because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen. **Romans 1**

<sup>20</sup> Gledhill, pp. 171.

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- Humanity, through Adam, exchanged the \_\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_\_.
- As a result people became \_\_\_\_\_ in their thinking.
- Their hearts became \_\_\_\_\_ and filled with \_\_\_\_\_ lusts.
- God, in an act of judgment, gives people up to the \_\_\_\_\_ inside them.
- Everyone has used their \_\_\_\_\_ understanding to understand their \_\_\_\_\_.
- Some people \_\_\_\_\_ upon those dark desires. Some people don't.
- Others are \_\_\_\_\_ of other people's dark desires.



“We live in a world where sexual desire seems anything but holy. Instead, it is bound to self-absorbed indulgence, transgression, and violence.”<sup>21</sup>

- All of us have been sexual sinners, some more \_\_\_\_\_ for others.
- All of us have been sinned \_\_\_\_\_ sexually, though some more profound than others.
- Coming to faith does not \_\_\_\_\_ all of our personal sexual distortions.

<sup>21</sup> Allender & Longman, pp. 3.

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- Getting married does not \_\_\_\_\_ all of our personal sexual distortions.
- These are matters of \_\_\_\_\_: putting unholy sexuality to death, and putting on a holy sexuality.

“Without the Song, the Church and synagogue would be left with spare and virtually exclusively negative words about an important aspect of our lives. ... God is interested in us as whole people. We are not souls encased in a husk of flesh. The Song celebrates the joys of physical touch, the exhilaration of exotic scents.” **Tremper Longman**<sup>22</sup>

*The Song* is the \_\_\_\_\_ to the rest of the Scripture’s emphasis on avoiding sexual \_\_\_\_\_. It presents us with an \_\_\_\_\_, a picture of renewed sexuality where the husband and wife are once again naked and unashamed.

“Surely it should not surprise us that God devotes one book in his Word to the goodness of the way he created us as sexual beings, made to live and love within the bounds of marriage.” **Kathleen Buswell Nielson**<sup>23</sup>

### Conclusion:

“The church often makes sexuality unspiritual, just as the world substitutes a sexual encounter for a spiritual experience.” **Allender & Longman**<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Longman, pp. 59.

<sup>23</sup> Nielson, pp. 130.

<sup>24</sup> Allender & Longman, pp. 15.