

Message Notes

"Sex and the City...of Corinth - pt 3"

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction - "Proud to be a Dad!"

Previous Problems in Corinth

Divisions chs 1-4

Sex in the City

Libertine view of Incest

Libertine view of Suiting one another

This week:

"It's just sex! Really?"

Three Statements of why not to be libertine

1. Everything is Permissible? Why?
(1 Cor. 6:12a)
2. Everything is Permissible? No, you have been mastered!
(1 Cor. 6:12b)
3. "Dude, I was made for sex!" Really... (1 Cor. 6:13)

The historical problem in the church of Corinth

Paul's Rationale for not

"feeding the stomach" of sexual desire

1. Your "stomach" is made for the food of God (1 Cor. 6:13)
2. You and Jesus are ONE (1 Cor. 6:14-17)
 - a. Bodies of Christians are unified with Jesus
 - b. Sexual intercourse unifies a person with another
 - c. Jesus, therefore, is unified with someone outside of the bounds
3. Biblical Body Image (1 Cor. 6:18-20)

Ground Hog Day - Repeat the message over for our situation!

Application - "We live in Corinth!"

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

¹²"Everything is permissible for me" - but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me" - but I will not be mastered by anything. ¹³"Food for the stomach and the stomach for food" - but God will destroy them both. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

¹⁴By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." ¹⁷But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. ¹⁹Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body. ¹²"Everything is permissible for me" - but not everything is beneficial.

Genesis 2:18,

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

^{20b}But for Adam no suitable helper was found.

²¹So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. ²²Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

²³The man said,

"This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

²⁴For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

²⁵The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.



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PREVIOUSLY ON

**CHURCH IN CRISIS:
A STUDY OF FIRST
CORINTHIANS**



SEX AND THE CITY

OF CORINTH



ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK

Sexual immorality – part 1

1 Corinthians 5:1

¹It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father's wife.



The Difficult Ride of the Christian Life



Legalism

Slippery Slope

License



Another Related Problem...

*Suing
one
another*



1 Corinthians 6:9-11

⁹Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

¹¹And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Sex and the City – part three

It's just sex! Really...?

Sex and the City – part three (It's just sex!)

Three Statements of why not to be libertine

Sex and the City – part three (It's just sex!)

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1 Corinthians 6:12-20

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Sex and the City – part three (It's just sex!)

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2. Everything is Permissible? No, mastered!

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3. “Dude, I was made for sex!” Really...

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Sex and the City – part three (It's just sex!)

The historical problem in the church of Corinth



Paul's Rationale for not "feeding the stomach" of sexual desire

1. Your "stomach" is made for the food of God

1 Corinthians 6:13

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2. *You and Jesus are ONE!*

1 Corinthians 6:14-17

¹⁴By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." ¹⁷But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

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2. You and Jesus are ONE!

b. Sexual intercourse unifies more than the body

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c. Therefore, Jesus is unified with the prostitute

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3. Biblical Body Image

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

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*Worst Sin? No, but most
counterfeit!*

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“The immoral person perverts precisely that faculty within himself that is meant to be the instrument of the most intimate bodily communication between persons. He sins against his unique power of bodily communication and in this sense sins in a particular way ‘against his own body.’ All other sins are in this respect by comparison ‘outside’ the body – with ‘body’ having in this verse the strong sexual overtones that appear to cling to it throughout the passage as a whole. No other sin engages one’s power of bodily personal communication in precisely so intimate a way.”

~ Brendan Byrne, *Sinning Against One’s Own Body: Paul’s Understanding of the Sexual Relationship in 1 Corinthians 6:18*, “CBQ 45 (1983): 613

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Sex and the City – part two (It's just sex!)

The history of sex in America



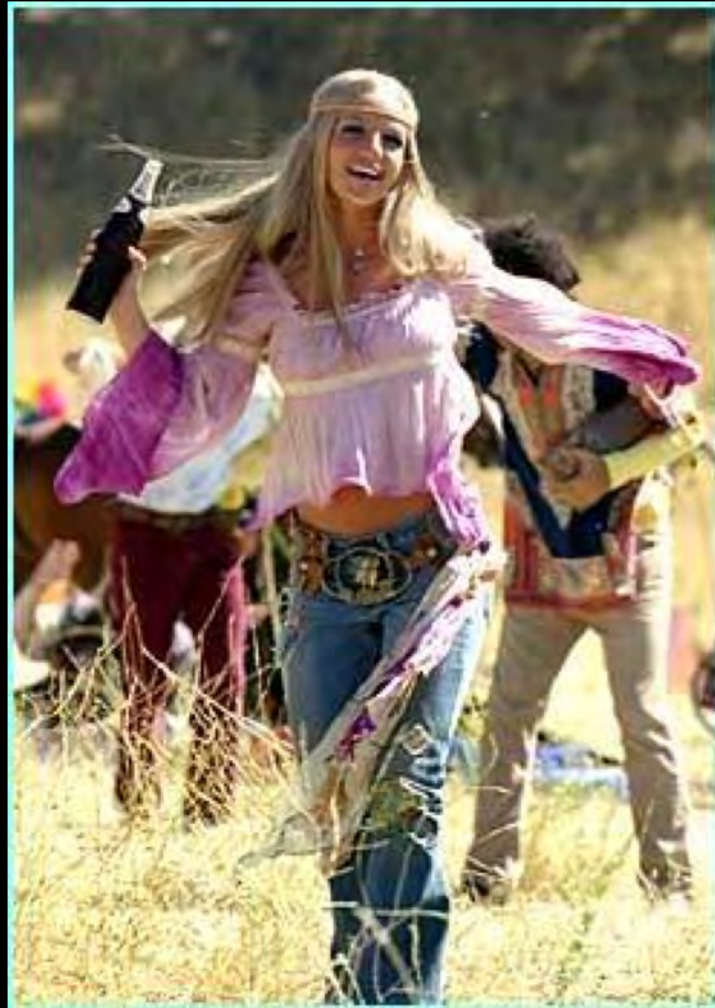
Sex and the City – part two (It's just sex!)

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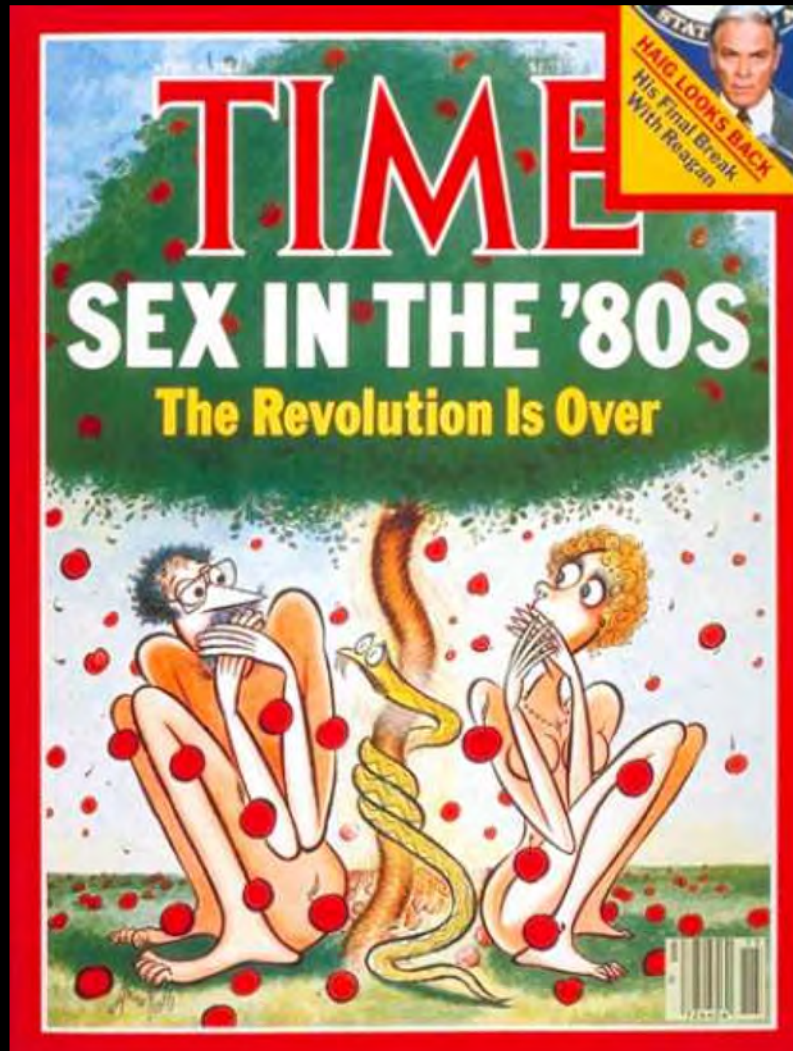
Sex and the City – part two (It's just sex!)

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The history of sex in America





Our culture's obsession with sex



“Or take it another way. You can get a large audience together for a striptease act--that is, to watch a girl undress on the stage. Now suppose you come to a country where you could fill a theatre by simply bringing a covered plate on to the stage and then slowly lifting the cover so as to let every one see, just before the lights went out, that it contained a mutton chop or a bit of bacon, would you not think that in that country something had gone wrong with the appetite for food? And would not anyone who had grown up in a different world think there was something equally queer about the state of the sex instinct among us?”

~ C. S. Lewis, from Mere Christianity (1952)

Our culture's obsession with sex

“One strong message is that sexual fulfillment is the key to being happy. Both boys and girls are considered weird in our culture if they are still virgins at age eighteen. So it should be no surprise that over 70 percent of young men and women have had intercourse before that age. The message is: “You can’t possibly be a fulfilled human being if you are not having sex in a way that excites you – and having it often.”

~ **Stephen Hayner, President of InterVarsity**

(quoted from *Discipleship Journal*: Issue 64 July/Aug 1991)





*“sex sells and the
whole world is
buying”*

~ Scott Stapp
From the song, “Signs”



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