



His Word Is Truth!

This article is written by Pastor Tom Eckstein of Concordia Lutheran Church in Jamestown. "His Word is Truth" will appear in this paper every 3rd Monday.

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Today we examine the 6th Commandment. Exodus 20:14 reads: **"You shall not commit adultery."** God gave this commandment to show us sinners how we so easily destroy God's gift of sex which God intended to be the expression of the unique sacrificial and life-creating love between **1 man** and **1 woman** in Holy marriage (see Genesis 1:27-28 and 2:21-24; also Matthew 19:1-6).

The 6th Commandment shows how we sinners

pervert God's plan for His gift of sex within marriage. Throughout history many husbands and wives have been unfaithful to God and unfaithful to each other by having sex with other people.

However, the 6th Commandment does not only forbid adultery! It also condemns the lust that tempts us to commit adultery (see Matthew 5:27-28). Since lust is clearly condemned as sin, the 6th Commandment also forbids the use of *pornography* – an evil so common today!

In addition, the 6th Commandment condemns ALL sexual activity outside the context of marriage. Therefore, when single men and women have sex before marriage, this is a terrible evil before God! Sadly, many men and women choose to live together before marriage. Even those who claim to be

Christian choose to live together before marriage, although this sin is clearly condemned by God's Word! Finally, the 6th Commandment also condemns **homosexuality**. Scripture clearly teaches that God created sex for **1 man** and **1 woman** within marriage. Therefore, Romans 1:21-27 teaches that homosexual desire and behavior is a rebellion against God's created order.

In addition, Leviticus 18:22 condemns homosexuality. Those who suggest that this Old Testament text no longer applies to us are in error! First, in Leviticus 18:1-5 God condemns the GENTILE nations for this sin, thereby showing that this prohibition is not part of the "ceremonial law" (given only to the Jews) but that it was intended for ALL people of ALL times and places. Second,

Leviticus 18:20 and 23 condemn adultery and bestiality. Most would not be willing to suggest that these condemnations no longer apply! Therefore, the prohibition against homosexuality in Leviticus 18:22 still applies today (although God no longer requires the death penalty for this sin). **This is why the New Testament also condemns homosexuality along with other sins (see 1st Corinthians 6:9-10)!**

Simply put, the 6th Commandment exposes how we sinners pervert God's gift of sex in so many ways. However, we must understand that ALL sin is equally evil before God (see Romans 1:28-31). The 10 Commandments show us that we are sinners who deserve nothing but God's wrath (see Romans 3:19-20). We sinners have "divorced" ourselves from God! **But the Good News**

is that God sent Jesus to "join together" what we sinners have "separated."

Jesus came into this world to save us from our sins – including our sexual sins! That's why God says that there is salvation for those who confess their sin and trust in Jesus as their Lord and Savior (see 1st Corinthians 6:11 and 1st John 1:8-2:2).

Jesus lived a perfect life in your place and also died on the cross in your place of damnation! Those whom the Holy Spirit moves to repent and trust in Jesus are cleansed from the guilt of their sin and stand innocent before God (see Romans 5:1-2, 2nd Corinthians 5:17-21, Ephesians 5:25-27 and Colossians 1:21-23).

Therefore, confess the sin God's Word exposes in your life and trust in Jesus today! In 2nd Corinthians 6:1-2 the Apostle Paul

writes: "...we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says, 'In a favorable time I listened to you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you.' Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation." Christ will give you peace and the strength to resist the desires of your sinful nature (see Titus 2:11-14). *Repent and trust in Jesus today!*

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Please read the next **"His Word is Truth"** on Monday, August 21st! Pastor Eckstein will continue his series on **The 10 Commandments** with the 7th Commandment: **"You Shall Not Steal!"**

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