



Lecture # 7 Part 2

The Ten Commandments, The Laws Governing Man's Duty To Others (Part 7): Commandment Seven Concerns Man's Family—Never Commit Adultery or Immorality, Exodus 20:14

The Seventh Commandment The Sanctity of Marriage “Lo Tineaf” (Exodus 20:14) “Thou shalt not commit adultery”

Exodus 20:14 (BHS)

¹⁴ לֹא תִנְאֵף: ס

Lo Tineaf

Exodus 20:14 (KJV)

¹⁴ “Thou shalt not commit **adultery.**”

Exodus 20:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ “You shall not commit **adultery.**”

(Exodus 20:14) Introduction— Adultery— Immorality— Sin: How serious a problem is adultery? In just a moment we shall see that this commandment refers to all forms of immorality. In light of that, how serious a problem is immorality in our society?

Most authorities and polls tell us that.....

1. adultery is prevalent
2. pregnancy among unwed mothers is on a sharp rise
3. premarital sex is becoming commonplace, the accepted practice among the young
4. sex among unmarried adults—young and old alike—is accepted and even expected by the vast majority of people

Is there a cesspool of immorality in society today? Most honest and thinking observers of history would say that immorality is a very serious problem today. Why? Because it threatens the family, the very foundation of society and civilization. The family is the primary place where trust, loyalty, and love are to be taught and demonstrated. If a person will not be faithful and loyal to his family, how can he be trusted to be faithful and loyal to his nation, society, and civilization?

It is far easier to be loyal to that which can be physically seen, such as one's family, than for that which is only an ideal such as nation, society, and civilization. Immorality strikes at the very foundation of society, the family. It tears apart the family and causes **hurt, suffering, strain, shame, guilt, secrecy, destitution, distrust, disloyalty, and unfaithfulness.** More-over, **immorality and adultery** teach that certain behavior is acceptable: **selfishness, unfaithfulness, distrust, disloyalty, secrecy, irresponsibility, and on and on.**



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This is the reason God gave us this commandment: to preserve our lives, to preserve the great qualities that bring peace, love, and trust to our lives, qualities that build a healthy mind and heart. This is the great subject of this commandment, a much needed subject: *Commandment Seven Concerns Man's Family—Never Commit Adultery or Immorality, Exodus 20:14.*

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1. Who is to obey this commandment? How long was this commandment to be in force (v.14)?
2. What is forbidden by this commandment (v.14)?
3. What is the decision required by this commandment (v.14)?

1. (Exodus 20:14) Commandments, The Ten— Adultery— Immorality— Sin: Who is to obey this commandment? How long is this commandment to be in force?

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Was this commandment to govern only the ancient world or is there still a need for the commandment: “You shall not commit adultery, immorality”? It is almost ridiculous to ask if this commandment governing immorality is needed today. Keep in mind that this is one of the ten great commandments of God. God has created man and God knows that man has some very basic needs, needs that have to be controlled or else they will run wild and destroy man and his world. One of these needs is the need for sex. God created man as a sexual being primarily to build a close bond between husband and wife (holding the family together) and to repopulate the earth.

God knows that man's sexual drive is strong, very strong. God has created the drive to be strong to make sure the great qualities of life are nourished (**love, joy, peace, trust, faithfulness, unity**) and that the earth is always repopulated. But God also knows that man has to control his drive: man has to keep his drive within bounds, within very



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specific limits. Therefore, God commands man: **“You shall not commit adultery; you shall not commit acts of immorality against marriage and the family.”**

Who is to obey this commandment? And how long is this commandment to be in force? You are to obey, and the commandment is in force as long as man lives, as long as man is to repopulate the earth.

Exodus 20:14 (NASB)

¹⁴“You shall not commit **adultery.**”

1 Corinthians 6:18 (NASB)

¹⁸“Flee immorality [**all forms of sex outside of marriage**]. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.”

1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 (NASB)

³“For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, **that you abstain from sexual immorality;**

⁴ that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

⁵ not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God.”

2. (Exodus 20:14) Commandments, The Ten— Adultery— Immorality— Sex, Illicit— Morality— Marriage: What is forbidden by this seventh commandment.

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“You shall not commit adultery” (Exodus 20:14)? How is this commandment broken, violated?

1. Adultery (*naap*) [“*niuf*”] or *adulterate* means “to debase, to corrupt oneself sexually, to make oneself impure sexually, to have sex outside of marriage.” What God is saying is simple, unqualified, and irrevocable: **“You shall not commit adultery; you shall not debase yourself, corrupt yourself, nor make yourself impure sexually. You shall not have sex outside of marriage.”**