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

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

> Exodus 20:14 (BHS) ¹⁴ לָא תְּנְאֵרָ: ס Lo Tineaf Exodus 20:14 (KJV) ¹⁴ "Thou shalt not commit <u>adultery</u>." Exodus 20:14 (NASB) ¹⁴ "You shall not commit <u>adultery</u>."

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

Exodus 20:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery."

4. Now, why does God forbid adultery? Prohibit immorality? What is God's purpose, His reason for giving this commandment? Keep in mind what is stated above: the experience of sex is a gift to man, a gift given by God.

God created sex for man, and even went so far as to make sex.....

a. a part of man's very nature

b. the very way man is to propagate the human race

Note what this means: if man failed to have sex, the human race would cease to be. Human life would become extinct within a few generations. God so intertwined sex within man's nature that man must have sex.

All this is to say one thing: sex is of critical importance to God. God not only approves of sex: He is the Giver and Creator of the experience of sex. But He put boundaries and limits around sex. Sex was created for marriage, for the home, and only for marriage and the home.

This leads us to the purposes for sex, the reasons why God gave this seventh commandment.

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a. God gave the seventh commandment to preserve man, to protect and safeguard the value of the individual, the sanctity of man's body and spirit. When a man and woman lie together, they are never more vulnerable, never more exposed. Lying together, their bodies and spirits are more exposed than at any other time. God intended sex to be one of the most intimate, warm, precious, and growing experiences of human life.

Sex was created so that two people could grow together, could nourish and nurture each other in.....

a.	love	h. self-esteem
b.	joy	i. a sense of fulfillment
c.	peace	j. perseverance
d.	trust	k. attractiveness
e.	loyalty	l. attention
f.	care	m. security

On and on the list could go; but note all the wonderful, positive, and strong qualities that sex is supposed to bring between two people. This is the reason God gave the seventh commandment: **"You shall not commit adultery"** (Exodus 20:14). These things are so important for a healthy personality that God did something: He ordained that one man and one woman were to give their lives to one another, that they were to focus upon sharing and developing the wonderful qualities in the other. God ordained marriage. Sex outside marriage never develops these qualities.

Illicit sex always causes problems.....

- 1. guilt
- 2. jealousy
- **3.** a sense of being used
- 4. unwanted pregnancies
- **5.** broken marriages
- 6. insecurity
- 7. a false sense of security
- **8.** loss of respect by others
- **9.** dissolution of the family
- **10.** problem children
- **11.** emotional problems
- 12. unhappiness
- 13. disease
- 14. a cheapening of sex
- 15. broken trust
- **16.** selfishness
- 17. loss of self-esteem
- **18.** loss of respect for others
- **19.** disloyalty
- 20. loss of affection and relationships
- **21.** a lack of fulfillment

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The point: God gave the seventh commandment to preserve the value of human life, the sanctity of man's body and spirit.

b. God gave the seventh commandment to preserve the family and the human race, society itself. The family is the basic unit of any society; therefore, the family has to be protected and preserved for society to survive. This was true for Israel and it is true for us, no matter what our generation. When husbands and wives are living in love and are faithful to each other, the great qualities of life are learned and taught: loyalty, trust, commitment, love, joy, and peace. These are the very qualities that grow and develop fruitful lives, families, and nations. No family, society, or nation can survive without these great qualities.

God demands the *sanctity of marriage*. God demands that husbands and wives be pure and faithful to one another, that they love one another and never commit adultery: **"You shall never commit adultery, never commit any act of immorality."**

Exodus 20:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ "You shall not commit <u>adultery</u>."

1 Corinthians 6:18 (NASB)

¹⁸ "Flee immorality [<u>all forms of sex outside of marriage</u>]. 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*, <u>that you</u> <u>abstain from sexual immorality</u>;

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."
1 Peter 2:11 (NASB)

¹¹ "Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul."

3. (<u>Exodus 20:14</u>) Commandments, The Ten— Adultery— Immorality— Sex, Illicit— Purity— Morality— Marriage: What is the decision required by this commandment?

Exodus 20:14 (BHS) ¹⁴ לָא תְּנְאָרָ: ס Lo Tineaf Exodus 20:14 (KJV) ¹⁴ "Thou shalt not commit <u>adultery</u>." Exodus 20:14 (NASB) ¹⁴ "You shall not commit <u>adultery</u>."

Exodus 20:14 (NASB) ¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery."

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Obedience! Very simply, we must never commit adultery, never commit an immoral act. We must live pure, holy lives. **But how?** How can we guard ourselves and keep from committing sexual sin in a sex-crazed society—a society that uses sex to sell products, provide entertainment, pleasure, recreation, and clothing for day to day dress?

Scripture says the following:

1. Never take a second look. And if you can prevent the first look, *never* look. As someone has said, we cannot keep the birds from flying over our heads, but we can prevent them from roosting there.

Matthew 5:28 (NASB)

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."

2. Flee temptation; flee the very appearance of evil. We must always flee at the very first offer, the very first sight, the very first thought, the very first urge (desire).

> 1 Thessalonians 5:22 (NASB) ²² "Abstain from every form of evil."

3. Flee immorality—abstain totally.

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;

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."

4. Never touch the unclean thing.

2 Corinthians 6:17-18 (NASB) ¹⁷ "Therefore, 'COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE', says the Lord. 'AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN'; And I will welcome vou.

¹⁸And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty."

5. Never talk about immorality, not even once.

Ephesians 5:3-4 (NASB)

³ "But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints;

⁴ and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks."

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6. Never give any part of your body over to sin.

Romans 6:13 (NASB)

¹³ "And do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin *as* instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God."

7. Never let sin control your body.

Romans 6:12 (NASB)

¹² "Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts."

Romans 6:11-13 (NASB)

¹¹ "Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

¹³ and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin *as* instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God."

8. Do not love the world nor the things of the world.

1 John 2:15-16 (NASB)

¹⁵ "Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

¹⁶ 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."

9. Live a crucified life, a life sacrificed totally to Christ.

Galatians 2:20 (NASB)

²⁰ "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me." Luke 9:23 (NASB)

²³ "And He was saying to *them* all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me."

10. Sacrifice and commit your body totally to Jesus Christ.

Romans 12:1-2 (NASB)

¹ "Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the

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renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

11. Put the sinful acts of the body to death.

Romans 6:11 (NASB)

¹¹ "Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus."

Romans 8:13 (NASB)

¹³ "For if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live."

12. Discipline yourself—strenuously so—in order to control your body.

1 Corinthians 9:27 (NASB)

²⁷ "But I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified."

Be filled with the Spirit of God, bearing His character and His character alone.
 Ephesians 5:18 (NASB)

¹⁸ "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit."

14. Guard your spirit.

Malachi 2:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ "But not one has done *so* who has a remnant of the Spirit. And what did *that* one *do* while he was seeking a godly offspring? Take heed then to your spirit, and let no one deal treacherously against the wife of your youth."

15. Glorify God in your body.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 (NASB)

¹⁸ "Flee immorality. Every *other* sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

²⁰ For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body."

16. Captivate and subject every thought to obey Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:5 (NASB)

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."

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17. Listen to God's Word: hide His Word in your heart and live by it. Psalm 119:9 (NASB)

⁹ "How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping *it* according to Your word."

Psalm 119:11 (NASB)

¹¹ "Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You."