

Sexual Purity Part 3
Targeted
Joshua 7:1-26

If you are a Christian you are a targeted man, a marked woman

Hell has taken out a contract on you – Satan is out to get you

If he can't take you to Hell he will do his best to make your life a living Hell

If you assume you will never be burglarized you will leave the windows and doors open, you will leave cash lying around

If you think you will never fall morally – you will carelessly, failing to take precautions (Pr 16:18)

God gives us a choice – humble ourselves or He will humble us (1 Peter 5:5-6)

Don't kid yourself that it can never happen to you

And if you think it can't it almost certainly will

Every act of sexual immorality I have ever had to help people deal with has always started out as something "harmless"

We are most vulnerable when we are tired, isolated, lonely, discouraged, depressed, angry, or struggling in our relationships

The enemy knows this and is waiting to pounce on us in those very times (Lk 4:13)

Paul's warning deserves a permanent place in our daily lives (1 Cor 10:12)

If you don't think you need to take precautions you are S-T-U-P-I-D

God's Love Means You Can't Hide

Violating God's moral standard is like violating the law of gravity – you can't escape it! (Gal 6:7-9)

Sooner or later sexual sin will be exposed (Num 32:23) – (Pr 10:9)

Here a thought that should make everyone stop and think – There is no such thing as a private moment (Lk 12:2-3)

Satan's oldest trick is to cast the illusion of privacy over our sinful choices

He tells us "No one is watching – No one will find out"

But he is lying!!!!

Someone is watching – the Audience of One

Someone already knows and in time many will know

We will never get away with sexual sins!

The Consequences of Sexual Sin

Medicine prevents or cures some venereal diseases

Birth control reduces the chances of pregnancy

But there is no contraceptive for the conscience

Medical science may eliminate some consequences of my sin, but it cannot remove my accountability to God (Pr 28:9)

If we are not practicing purity, it nullifies our prayers and ministry

Sexual sin blocks fellowship with God

Listen if you are in immorality's grip there is only one prayer God wants to hear from you – the prayer of confession and repentance

Back to Achan's sin

It caused 30 people to die as well as his whole family

While God is sovereign in each person's life, it is clear that the private sins of one individual can bring terrible consequences on others

Every wife, I have had to deal with, whose husband was trapped in pornography has told us that it had a deep impact on their intimacy

How Do We Identify Satan's Lies? (Jn 8:44)

Satan is a smooth liar, but Jesus tells us the truth that sets us free (Jn 8:32)

Paul says we are not unaware of Satan's schemes (2 Cor 2:11)

But too often, in today's world, I think we are

We need to know what Satan does to destroy us (1 Peter 5:8)

A fishing lure is beautiful for a reason..... to attract fish to its destruction

Temptation always looks good – otherwise it wouldn't be temptation

But our God is infinitely more powerful than Satan (1 Jn 4:4)

(2 Peter 1:3-4)

God warned Adam – "if you eat what is forbidden you will die", Satan said "you won't die"

Every time we are tempted toward sexual sin, we must choose between two voices – God's or Satan's

Which will you believe?

Superior Satisfaction

A sexual image lures my mind toward lust

The world, my flesh, and the devil barrage me with this message: It will relieve my pain,
disappointment, stress; I'll be happier
God is just trying to keep something good from me
But God's Word shows the lie for what it is – happiness can only be found in Jesus
We are left with two choices – trust God or trust Satan
I choose between sexual fantasies and intimacy with God – I cannot have both!
When I see that God offers me joy and pleasures that sexual sins cant this is a
breakthrough
But that breakthrough will only come when I pursue God
I have to make Him the object of my quest
Fantasies are only a cheap God-substitute
Running to them is actually running from God
When my thirst for joy is satisfied by Christ, sin becomes unattractive
Saying "no" to immorality is not saying no to pleasure,
Its saying "yes" to true pleasure – a pleasure that can only be found in Christ
The fire of lust's pleasure must be fought with the fire of God's pleasure
You cant fight the fire of lust by just saying I wont do it
You have to fight them with the promise of superior happiness
We must desire God's holy fire more than lust's little fire
Those who drink on immorality are never satisfied (Jn 4:13)
Those who drink of Jesus are fully satisfied (Jn 6:35)
I can either have my thirst quenched in Jesus
Or I can plunge deeper into sin in search of what is not there
The rest of your life will be largely determined by how you answer this question: Who will you believe?