

University Heights Church of Christ

BULLETIN

February 22, 2009

Why “Dirty” is not “Funny”

“**Dirty**- morally unclean or corrupt as indecent, vulgar- a dirty movie, a dirty joke”

“**Vulgar**- morally crude, coarse, lewdly or profanely indecent.”

God said, sex is honorable in marriage. That means that sex in marriage is not lewd, crude, profanely indecent, coarse, vulgar or morally corrupt.

Hebrews 13:4 “Marriage [is] honorable in all, and **the bed undefiled**: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.”

And God said, I want both of you to see that your spouse has fun.

1 Corinthians 7:3 “Let the husband render to the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife to the husband. 4 The wife has not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband has not power of his own body, but the wife. 5 Defraud you not one the other, except [it be] with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.”

And God said, *And one other thing, what you do is your business, keep it that way.* How did God say that? Do we see anybody else in the equation that God set up for sexual activities in marriage other than the husband and wife? Do we see parents of in-laws or friends or neighbors or church folks or the “Domestic Affairs Committee” or the plain old nosy or anybody else in the equation? All I see is the husband and wife. He pleases her, and she pleases him, and all the rest of us tend to our own business, is the way God set it up.

With the assurance that sexual activities between husband and wife in lawful marriage are absolutely honorable, and that the mission is for each spouse to gratify the desires of the other spouse, God ushered the husband and wife into the bedroom. God closed the door behind them and sealed the keyhole shutting the rest of us out of it. My wife and I always thought that was right and beautiful and the way it ought to be. Because of what the Bible says we resented every attempt on the part of anyone to make sex public or bawdy or raunchy or the butt or the object of course attempts at humor to be shared as a social group activity. Sexual activities, according to God, are honorable between husband and wife in a lawful marriage and absolutely dishonorable in any other circumstance. The word “dirty” when used in connection with humor always suggests humor that involves references to sexual activities. A “dirty” joke is about sex. A “dirty” movie is about sex. That’s what the world says and the world is expert on all things “dirty”.

One thing condemned in the New Testament is “**jesting**”. The Greek word is #2160, “*eutrapelia*.” It is used in **Ephesians 5:4**. The word can be used to indicate completely innocent pleasant humor or as it is translated in this case in the NKJV “**coarse jesting**”. Because of the context in **Ephesians 5:4** the word is clearly indicating coarse jesting there, and the text is just as clearly indicating that jesting of that kind is not acceptable in the lives of God’s people.

Ephesians 5:3 “But **fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becomes saints; 4 Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. 5 For this you know, that **no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. 6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things comes the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. 7 Be not you therefore partakers with them.****”

Sexual activities outside of lawful marriage are absolutely not funny. Sin against God that God has promised to punish and often demonstrated that He will punish in the most extreme ways cannot be trivialized by humor by any that intend to please God. The New Testament is absolutely clear on that.

1 Corinthians 6:18 “**Flee fornication. Every sin that a man does is without the body; but **he that commits fornication sins against his own body.** 19 What? know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit [which is] in you, which you have of God, and you are not your own? 20 For you are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.**”

1 Thessalonians 4:1 “*Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort [you] by the Lord Jesus, that as you have received of us how you ought to walk and to please God, [so] you would abound more and more. 2 For you know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, [even] your sanctification, **that you should abstain from fornication:** 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in **sanctification and honour:** 5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: 6 That no [man] go beyond and defraud his brother in [any] matter: because that **the Lord [is] the avenger of all such,** as we also have forewarned you and testified. 7 For God has not called us to uncleanness, but to holiness. 8 He therefore that despises, despises not man, but God, who has also given to us his Holy Spirit.*”

As far as I can see sex outside of lawful marriage is a disaster, not a joke. Sex in a lawful marriage is the private property of the husband and wife, not a joke. If I desire to be funny and still please God it seems to me that the Bible indicates that I need to find some topic other than sex about which to be funny. That is the way the life of a Christian is. There are many things that the world enjoys that we simply cannot do because we are seeking to please God and God has indicated that those things do not please Him. We realize that the devil is constantly attempting to get us to displease God. The devil is seeking to destroy us by destroying our relationship to God.

1 Peter 5:8 “*Be sober, be vigilant; because **your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour:** 9 **Whom resist steadfast in the faith,** knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.*”

The world is **seeking to please self, not God**. For that reason the world engages in and very much enjoys many, many things that, because they are **seeking to please God not self**, Christians may not engage in. Life in flesh on earth is **one test after another to see whether or not God is first**. The devil comes knocking and his whole purpose is to get me to do something that is not according to God’s will. To please God I must resist the devil. When the devil comes knocking my only defense is to know the revealed will of God and use it to know when, where and how the devil must be resisted. I cannot depend on my instincts or my judgement to know when or how to deal with the devil; I must absolutely **know and use the word of God**.

Remember to Pray For

Ron Tirey recuperating from heart surgery
Ron Catchen the brother of Bobby Atkisson also recuperating from surgery
Jackson Scott Spivey
Mildred Collins, David's mother is to undergo thyroid surgery in the near future
Dallis and Alma Isaacs
Francis Nations
Mary Jane Frost
Melanie Bilye
Rick Shamas
Bonnie Wells
Sarah Phillips
Carol Bach
Edith Tirey
Lucy Hale
Pamela Clayton
Ella Wells, and her family
Freddie Ward
David and Chessie Harwell
Donna Caldwell
Mabel Greene
Tony Tyree
Ruth Brundige
Cindy Miller
Christie Ellis
Shirley Lewis
Brady Gibbons
Gail Hunter
Larry Flannery
Donnie Joseph
Cheryl Spear
Lanny Hiller
Charity and Abdiel Pallafox
Helen Stephens
Chris Handshoe
Jeffrey Howerton
Addison Pervine
Tom Kemp
Freda Blakey

God intends to be surrounded by
pure minds

Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God." (Matthew 5:8)

Pure, #2513 katharos

AV - pure 17, clean 10, clear 1; 28

Pure minds result from pure thinking so the apostle Paul said, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things [are] honest, whatsoever things [are] just, whatsoever things [are] pure, whatsoever things [are] lovely, whatsoever things [are] of good report; if [there be] any virtue, and if [there be] any praise, think on these things." (Philippians 4:8)

Pure, #53 hagnos

AV - pure 4, chaste 3, clear 1; 8

AND SO WE MUST THINK
PURE

Thoughts

Make it worth! A class worth coming to- A book worth reading- A picture worth seeing- A statement worth hearing- A fact worth knowing- A thing worth doing- An object or service worth buying- A thought worth thinking- A life worth living- A death worth dying- Living for God- And dying for God- So that there will have been some genuine worthy consequence of being here- A soul so formed that God will save it- And keep it with Him forever-

"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4)

"And he humbled you, and suffered you to hunger, and fed you with manna, which you knew not, neither did your fathers know; that he might make you know that man does not live by bread only, but by every [word] that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD does man live." (Deuteronomy 8:3)

"The secret [things belong] to the LORD our God: but those [things which are] revealed [belong] to us and to our children for ever, that [we] may do all the words of this law." (Deuteronomy 29:29)

"[As for] God, his way [is] perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he [is] a buckler to all those that trust in him." (Psalms 18:30)

"For the word of the LORD [is] right; and all his works [are done] in truth. 5 He loves righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD. 6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. 7 He gathered the waters of the sea together as a heap: he laid up the depth in storehouses. 8 Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. 9 For He spoke, and it was [done]; he commanded, and it stood fast." (Psalms 33:4-9)

"The Lord gave the word: great [was] the company of those that published [it]." (Psalms 68:11)

"Bless the LORD, you his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening to the voice of his word." (Psalms 103:20)

"Come now, and let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. 19 If you be willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land: 20 But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD has spoken [it]." (Isaiah 1:18-20)

"And many people shall go and say, Come you, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem." (Isaiah 2:3)

"Therefore as the fire devours the stubble, and the flame consumes the chaff, [so] their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel." (Isaiah 5:24)

Notes

Next Sunday, March 1, Adam Litmer will begin to preach here as the full time preacher. Let us all welcome he and his family to the work.

The men's business meeting is today at 3:00PM
The informational meeting is today at 4:30PM

GOSPEL MEETING

WITH

DAVID PHILLIPS,

SUNDAY APRIL 5

Through

FRIDAY APRIL 9

Sermon Topics for the Meeting

*More Than Simple Faith
Courage to Stand
Knowledge for Life
Strength to Conquer Self
Patience Under Fire
Aspiring to be Like God
Brotherly Kindness
Agape Love*

PLAN TO BE THERE

Schedule of Services

Sunday Morning

Bible Classes 9:45am

Worship Service 10:45am

Sunday Evening

Worship Service 6:00pm

Wednesday Evening

Bible Studies for all ages

7:30pm

Monthly Song Service

First Friday 7:30pm

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COME STUDY THE BIBLE
AND WORSHIP WITH US

HELP GOD'S WORD GROW
LEARN IT • OBEY IT •
TEACH IT