

1. God's Design- Genesis 2:24-25 "That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame."

God designed sex for a man and a woman for not only procreation, but also as a physical symbol to illustrate the depth of intimacy that they share and that he desires to share with us.

Satan's Lie- Satan has exchanged the good gift for a cheap counterfeit. He has substituted God's love which is outwardly focused; to a self-centered love. A better word for this inwardly-focused love is *lust*. Lust is in opposition to love; it is selfishly motivated and places one's own desires above the other persons. Love on the other hand places the other person's needs and desires above their own. A good example of what Satan's lie will do to you is the Samaritan woman (John 4:1-30) who finds herself in a cycle of trying desperately to find a love that satisfies, and coming up short over and over again until true love steps onto the scene.

2. Our Response- I Cor. 7:2-5

² But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband. ³ The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. ⁴ The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife. ⁵ Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

Our response should be to flee lust and sexual immorality until we are married at which time we present our bodies as a gift to our spouse.

3. The Results- God's plan "protects and provides" for those who choose to follow its original design. This plan confines sex to marriage in order to...

A. Protect from God's Judgment*

Heb. 13:4 "Marriage is honorable in all and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge."

B. To Protect the mind from sexual comparisons, and provide peace of mind*

Fear of the comparison to another's performance.

Fear of the "Rerun in the Theater of the Mind."

Peace of mind from disease, AIDS, VD, etc.

C. To Protect from suspicion and provide Trust*

A key factor to fulfilled marriage is Trust. Premarital sex erodes the trust factor.

"When a husband or wife knows the other has waited to have sex until after marriage, it strengthens that Trust factor." Promiscuousness erodes: waiting strengthens.

*Why Wait: Josh McDowell

