



1 Corinthians

SEXUAL PURITY

1 Corinthians 6:9-20

www.thesacramentaljourney.org

KEY VERSE

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually sins against their own body.

-1 Corinthians 6:18

Greek term: porneia - “*illicit sexual activity*” -This term is found about 25 times in the New Testament. It is an “umbrella” term that depicts expressions of sexual immorality.

The Old Testament context for 1 Corinthians 6 is Leviticus 18.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

NT Greek - *μαλακοι*- *malakoi* - “soft” - this is the slang word for the passive partner in homosexual sex.

NT Greek - *αρσενοκοιται*- *arsenokoitai* - “*having sexual intercourse with a male*”- this word seems to have been coined by Paul himself. It is a compound word in Greek and is the Greek translation of Leviticus 18:22.

1 Timothy 1:8-11

In 1 Timothy 1:10, Paul mentions homosexuality again as evidence of an ungodly, sinful, and unholy lifestyle.

Romans 1:18-32

This text outlines the tragic result of the Fall of Humanity. Human beings have been guilty of rejecting God for centuries. The ramifications of sinful disobedience have been disastrous for creation in general and the human family in particular. One area where the disastrous results of sin are most apparent is that of sexuality. Human depravity is the explanation for those who reject God's original design for sexual intimacy in exchange for inadequate, substitutional behavior.

In 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, Paul offers a holistic understanding of the value and dignity of the human body. He challenges believers to embrace a morality built upon a Christian worldview.

Historical, Orthodox Christian View on Human Sexuality

Human beings are all created in the image of God. There are two sexes: male and female. Human beings are sexual creatures capable of procreating. Sexuality is a gift from God. Human sexuality is to find its expression within the confines of marriage between one man and one woman. Sexual expression between married couples is an expression of intimacy, the means of procreation, and reflects the divine act of creation. It also forms the basis for family life among humans. Marriage symbolizes the relationship between God and Israel in the Old Covenant Era and between Christ and the Church in the New Covenant Era.