

Intimate love

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INTRODUCTION:

A. The lessons from this series:

1. 327_Introduction to the series about the family
2. 591_Marriage: Its purpose
3. 592_Marriage: Its permanency
4. 015_The man's role in marriage
5. 017_The woman's role in marriage
6. 498_A wife worth more than jewels
7. 244_When mommy is not home
8. 597_Loving intellectually
9. 598_The affectionate love
10. 599_Intimate love
11. 602_Communication
12. 604_Problems between husband and wife
13. 606_The responsibilities of parents and kids
14. 608_Training our children: Education
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16. 610_Training our children: Direction
17. 612_Biblical cases of fathers and sons
18. 611_The relationship between siblings
19. 440_What every youth wants in reality
20. 618_Courtship: Preparation for marriage
21. 021_The family who is centered in Christ

B. The three classes of love that exist in a marriage relationship:

1. Intellectual affection, loving rationally (sermon #597_Loving intellectually), **Ephesians 5:28-29**
2. Affectionate love (sermon #598, this sermon) it is the charm, the love found on each other (**Genesis 29:11, 17-18**)
3. Intimate love (This sermon #599, the sexual relationship between husband and wife) for example **Proverbs 5:19**

C. The definition of intimate love:

1. It is a private love and personal in its nature
2. It also could be called "sexual love", the word sexual **connote** (indicates) concupiscence (passionate lust) practiced without any moral restrains. **WE ARE NOT TALKING ABOUT THIS!**
3. It is a love that corresponds to the biological differences between a husband and wife with all of its impulses, attractions and functions.
4. It is a love by which its climax (height) is expressed in a sexual relationship (physical contact, etc.)

D. The important relationship with other types of love

1. The three classes of love mentioned previously need to be present in order to have a healthy love relationship.

2. Let us take note of the following, without intellectual love and affectionate love, intimate love cannot and will not reach its potential. Instead of being a beautiful experience as God has designed it, it can become into a nightmare a horrible experience.

E. The necessity of this study, sermon:

1. Sexual relationship is a major problem for some marriages
 - a. It is a very common problem
 - b. Even though the problem will not be mentioned or described in divorce papers, it is found at the bottom of many marriage problems.
2. There are many erroneous concepts about “sex”, intimate relations between a husband and wife. Notice the following erroneous concepts about sex:
 - a. The desire to have sexual relations is the result of a “sinful nature” in man or woman. This desire will leave a spot, stain in man, it is permissible but dirty.
 - b. Sexual intimacy is only for procreation. Sexual relations for pleasure, for enjoyment is sin, filthy, etc.
 - c. This is the only base for marriage.
 - d. It is the “only” type of love. (It is NOT, notice the following counter points)
 - 1) In this is found the deceitfulness of fornication
 - 2) Consider (**Proverbs 7:18**)
 - 3) Called it “love” and how can it prejudicial (detrimental)?
 - 4) For this we need to know about the different types of love. Sexual love can be cruel, selfish, and could bring tragic results.
 - 5) Let us see the context of (**Proverbs 7:22-27**), also let remember (**2 Samuel 13:1-19**)

F. This is a healthy study, sound if based on the word of God

1. Let us remember, God created this (sexual) relationship between man (husband) and woman (wife)
 - a. **Genesis 2:22**
 - b. **Genesis 2:24**, “For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall **cleave** to his wife; **and they shall become one flesh.**” Now notice (**1 Cor. 6:16**), “Or do you not know that the one who **joins** himself to a harlot is one body *with her*? For He says, ‘THE TWO WILL BECOME ONE FLESH’
 - c. Therefore, sexual relationship when directed by the word of God it is NOT something dirty, filthy, etc.
2. God speaks about this very theme in the Bible; therefore let us not dismiss this topic by not studying it.

G. The objective of this sermon:

1. To study two passages, verses in the Bible that speak about intimate love
 - a. **1 Cor. 7:1-5**
 - b. **Proverbs 5:15-20**
2. To conclude with some observations

[Let us begin with the first major point in this lesson...]

I. 1 CORINTHIANS 7:1-5

A. Verse 2

1. Let us notice the implication that a desire for the sexual instinct exists before marriage (“but because of **immoralities** (“fornications” – KJV, ASV), let each man have his own wife...” vs. 2a)

- a. It is not necessary wrong to have this desire, God created us with this desire. It is sin when we try to satisfy this desire beyond the lawful realm set by God, marriage (consider **James 1:14-15**).
- b. We need to distinguish between instinct and desire and the fulfillment of these in an illicit manner, notice the following passages:
 - 1) See (**Matthew 5:27-28**)
 - 2) Also (**Colossians 3:5**)
2. The fulfillment or the sexual satisfaction is one of the purposes of marriage

B. Verse 3

1. "Let the husband fulfill his duty to his wife..." – **NASV77**, "Let the husband render unto the wife her due..." – **ASV**. It is 'to give what one owes or is under obligation to render.' (Lenski p. 275) 'The language of obligation, literally, "the payment of what is due." implies that married couples are indebted to one another sexually.' (Fee p. 279)
 - a. May be similar to making a house payment? We may not like to make those payments but we have to.
 - b. If intellectual love is coupled with intimate love, then it will be done with "benevolence" ("Let the husband render unto the wife due **benevolence**: and likewise also the wife unto the husband" –**KJV, 1 Cor. 7:3**), or with affection.
2. In the area of sexual relations is equally among the sexes in marriage, "and likewise also the wife to her own husband". There is one standard for both of them no double standard. Also notice the following:
 - a. Woman has the same sexual desires as man, compare (**Matt. 5:32**)
 - b. Some may not acknowledge this, but God created man and woman with that sexual desire
3. Also note the following as well:
 - a. Even though God permitted divorce and re-marriage based on fornication on either one in a marriage, this does not give a license to practice withholding sexual relations until the spouse give into fornication so that divorce can be taken place (this verse condemns this and also verse 5).

C. Verse 4

1. "The wife does not have **authority** over her own body..." That is, the woman does not have the authority, or the power to rule over her own body.
2. She has no authority to deprive the husband from her body...rather is to give what is due!

D. Verse 5

1. "Stop depriving one another"
 - a. The word "depriving" – **NASV77**, "defraud" – **KJV & ASV** comes from the Greek word "apostereo {ap-os-ter-eh'-o}; from and stereo (to deprive); to despoil: -defraud, destitute, kept back by fraud. 'One-sided insistence on abstinence therefore amounts to robbing the other party of his or her rights.' (F.F. Bruce p. 67).
 - b. To "defraud" includes the elements of "frustration" and "deceive" Consider the excuses that the husband and or wife will give to abstain from having sexual relations: "I have a head ache", "I am very tired," etc.
 - 1) God uses a very strong word, "defraud" for such withholding. It is very wrong to draw a person into marriage for later withhold what is due to him or her, this is lying and we know what happens to the persons who lie (**Revelations 21:8**).
2. "Except by **agreement** for a time that you may **devote** yourselves to **prayer**..."
 - a. That is a mutual agreement between the husband and wife for a given time for prayer; therefore it is not abstaining from sex because of the wrong reasons, anger, resentment, bitterness, revenge, marital problems, etc.

3. The reason, "Lest Satan tempt you because of your lack of self-control"
 - a. We must not ignore the effect of abstinence of sexual relations in a marriage. Satan does not ignore it; on the other hand he takes advantage of the situation.
 - b. Some couples when not receiving the sexual attention they should in a marriage many will participate in a flirting attitude being vulnerable to it.

II. PROVERBS 5:15-20

A. The figures

1. "Cistern", "well" (vs. 15), "fountain" (vs. 18) = the wife (see Song of **Solomon 4:12-16** where the woman is represented as a fountain of water that satisfies the thirst (desire) of the husband.
2. "Drink" (vs. 15) = the actions of the husband.
3. "Should your springs be dispersed abroad, streams of water in the streets?" (vs.16), if the husband does not drink the water of the well or cistern then it will overflow and the water is dispersed on the streets. It is a warning against adultery!
4. "Be **exhilarated** always with her love" (vs. 19)
 - a. The Hebrew word **shagah** literally signifies, deceive, err, to go stray
 - b. The same Hebrew word is found in **5:20**, and in **5:23**, "he shall go astray"
 - c. It is used in the effect of the wine see (**Isaiah 28:7**), "And these also reel ("erred" – KJV) with wine..."
 - d. In verse **19** the idea is to be lost in the emotion, the pleasure of the sexual relation.

B. Some observations

1. "Intimate relations" (sex) is pure it is something God wants man and woman to enjoy.
2. The sphere (realm) by which God has marked for man to enjoy this gift from God is in marriage only ("and rejoice in the wife of your youth" vs. 18)
3. Only in this realm, marriage "intimate relations" sex can be practiced for the motive of enjoyment.
4. The unhappy person with their marriage will seek to fulfill this desire outside their marriage (**Proverbs 5:20**)

III. SOME OBSERVATIONS

A. Man (man or woman) looks at the appearance (1 Samuel 16:7)

1. Man towards the woman (**Genesis 29:16-18; 2 Samuel 11:2**)
2. Woman towards man (**Genesis 39:6b-7**)

B. Woman desires affectionate love (Genesis 29:32, 34)

C. The ambient of the scene could be of help (Proverbs 7:16-18, one can learn much from our rivals)

D. The wise man or woman will notice these things that are according to the word of God and will put them in practice.

CONCLUSION:

A. Sad to say but the wholesome that which is good has been converted to shame

1. Sexual relation created by God by way of ignorance, abuse and the perversion had become strong ties with sin to the extent that the people of God is ashamed to even talk about them that is what God has created.
2. Parents do not talk to their children
3. In the local church this topic is not studied what God has revealed to us.

B. The result: more ignorance, abuse, and perversion even so in God's people.

C. We must return to the Bible, to the scriptures to the word of God to study His will with regards on this important matter that pertains to the family.