

# Preserving Your PURITY



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## Preserving Your Purity

Right from the time of the first couple, man has clearly understood that marriage is a very special relationship strictly between two people, not to be shared with a crowd. People abandon this belief in the uniqueness and believes of matrimonial relationship only under the greatest of brainwashing.

Purity is to be maintained at two levels, physical and mental. Physical purity means that one should reserve sexual relationship only for one's future companion. Further, this act should take place only after the wedding is over. I emphasize this because under the influence of radical morality, many educated young people have started thinking that once the engagement is over, you do not have to wait for physical relations till the marriage. What is worse, in larger cities, engaged young people find it easy to meet each other privately and this only adds to the temptation.

Purity at the mental level requires that you should neither engage in vulgar or obscene conversation nor listen to such talk of your friends, not be exposed to such things. Many Magazines, TV programs, Movies, and even

songs come loaded now with vulgar and sexy themes. The tantalizing and teasing by these media fill the minds of youngsters with plenty of sexual fantasies.

Sexual fantasies not only contaminate the mind, they are also a very serious sin. Lord Jesus reminded his hearers that if a person looked at a woman to lust after her, he has already committed adultery with her. Further, psychological and sociological surveys have repeatedly demonstrated that habitual contamination of one's mind with impure thoughts destroy the balance and spontaneity of a person's sexual life.

### Why Should Sexual Purity Be Maintained?

There are several solid reasons why every person should keep himself physically and mentally pure before and after marriage.

First of all, purity is an idea cherished by mankind right from creation. It has been cherished not only in the Bible, but also by all the civilized cultures all over the world. The Old Testament gives stern instruction against permissive behavior. For example, "For the lips of an adulteress drip honey and smoother than oil is her speech. But in

the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two edged sword." (Proverbs 5:3,4). Then the same chapter goes on to say, "Drink water from your cistern, and fresh water from your own well. Should your springs be dispersed abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let them be yours alone and not for strangers with you' (Proverbs 5:15-17) . The reference is to sexual relationship, which is to be kept exclusively for one's life partner and not for anyone else before or after marriage.

The radical media has been proclaiming for some time that now we are living under a "new morality' and thus ideas like purity and sanctity are things of the past. Interestingly, in modern era several societies did experiment with this new morality, which is nothing except old immorality, and the results have been catastrophic, to say the least. Survey, after surveys and researches after researches have demonstrated that instead of attaining the promised sexual paradise, these permissive movements only brought in unwanted children, mental breakdown, increased marital instability, and worse of all – AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, some of which are incurable event today.

Proponents of the old immorality often put forward another argument that many of the primitive societies did not have any kind of sexual restriction, while it is true that some societies in the past did allow free sex, and even incestuous marriages, these were always the exceptions, not the rule. Only an insignificant minority of societies practiced free sex. They were perceived by the civilized societies of their own period as social and moral aberrations. Worse, almost all such societies perished because of their moral and sexual perversions.

The Scriptures not only demand purity from the children of God, but also lay down detailed rules to guide and govern human sexual conduct. It prescribed death penalty for both pre and post marital permissiveness, and at the same time strictly forbade incest-for which only death was the suitable penalty.

The second reason for keeping one's sexual purity is because permissiveness is devoid of reality and is selfish to the core. Though even animals engage in sex, human sex is not merely an animal instinct. It has close connection with mutual relationship and communion. This when it is seen only as

another mechanical activity like brushing of teeth or trimming of nails, the higher dimensions of human sexuality are lost. It become just a mechanical act, and indulgence can at best be called only selfishness.

Sex within the confines of marriage is neither mechanical nor an expression of selfishness. On the contrary, it is a many-faced communication between a couple which fills their life with aspects which none can experience without entering into a similar relationship with their own marriage partner. Further, God has designed the sexual activity in such a way that the real satisfaction of each partner depends upon the other. True, the man can get some satisfaction even if the woman does not play her role fully, but sex to its full depth and true ecstasy can be enjoyed only when each partner arises to help the other. Thus the very design of the sexual act indicates that it is not to be indulged outside the confines of a committed relationship.

The third reason why you should keep yourself pure is for the sake of innocence. Spontaneity and innocence of character are great assets. Just look at how people are attracted in any society to this type of



persons. Yet these can quickly be lost. Sociological and psychological investigations indicate that indulgence in permissive behavior quickly changes the innocent look and feeling of people. The inner change cannot be hidden by any outer faced. Their grace, character, and spontaneity is lost. Some of you might have noticed how some of the best young people around you underwent drastic change in their dynamic personality after they started engaging in morality questionable behavior.

That is worse, once a person tastes what does not belong to him, he craves for more and more of the illegitimate. Thus instead of becoming a satisfying experience, here is an experience which saps all joy and innocence from young people.

There is a fourth reason why you should preserve your purity. While experience prepares a person for future challenges by enhancing his performance, sex is the only activity where this order is reversed. Yes, you heard it right. While previous experience in any field gives an advantage when indulging in the same activity in future, it is just the opposite in marriage.

People with premarital sexual involvement have a very difficult time adjusting to a normal and committed marriage relationship. Their tendency is to compare the marriage partner with other sexual partners. This can quickly lead to dissatisfaction. Further, whenever there is any decrease in satisfaction, a craving sets in for the sexual companions of old. This can spell ruin for the present relationship.

The easy and cheap availability of mass media has enabled many of these media-moguls to spread their deviant ideas easily to the masses. Further, many people with profit in mind realize that here is an area for making a fast buck, and they have been exploiting the media with plenty of pornographic material. This in turn has given rise to plenty of movements and special-interest groups for whom perversion is a way of life. Since no civilized society allows or tolerates sexual perversions as a way of life, these movements have been concentrating all their energies to convince everyone that perversion is a normal phenomena.

Under the influence of these organized movements, abortion, homosexuality, lesbianism, incest, pedophilia, wife-swapping,

and other forms of perversion have gone to the extent of removing all restrictions from pornographic material. Obviously, due to socio-economic changes, people living in many countries are free to enjoy unbridled and unrestricted sex outside the confines of matrimony, and a lot of people have been doing so. But what are the results ?

Today unlimited sexual freedom has been available in several countries for a sufficiently long period of time for us to make fair and accurate deductions about the consequences of permissiveness. What do we learn. Has sexual anarchy ushered in the paradise that was promised by the worshippers of Venus?

One permissive country after has shown that instead of bringing in the promised paradise, sexual permissiveness has brought only untold curse to these countries. For example, instead of decreasing, the incidents of rape have only increased in these countries. Marriages are turning unstable, and people now talk about at least eight different kinds of marriages. Divorce and parentless children have been increasing. Boredom and frustration have set in. Sexual crimes and

abduction of women and children are also on the increase.

At first sight gratification seems to be the solution for solving human desires, but it is not. Desires have to be controlled or satisfied depending on the context in which they come up. Gratification, on the other hand, only gives temporary satisfaction. In the long run it only leads to frustration, boredom, and pain. Thus history clearly teaches us that immoral sexual gratification does not pay. In the long run permissiveness become a curse while purity turns out to be a bliss.

### Where Is The World Headed To?

While sexual permissiveness was advocated only by a microscopic minority till the last century, things have changed radically in the twenty-first century. This is part of the overall shift in prevailing moral philosophy.

Almost till the nineteenth century, different kinds of God-centered philosophies dominated mankind. In spite of their mutual differences, these philosophies all accepted

that man should be leading a God-centered life. This in turn encouraged practices like self control, devotion, sacrifice, and preserving of sexual purity. However, the present day philosophies have turned it all upside down.

Through a combination of numerous factors, plenty of man-centered philosophers have gained upper hand in this century. All these movements place men as the master at the center of the universe. Since man is the master, it follows that, he does not have to abide by any higher code of conduct or morality. "Do your own thing" and "Do it" because only you decide what is right and what is wrong has become the new mood. This has in turn lowered our moral standards and has even destroyed many of the barriers that prevented people from jumping the fence into error.

The number of pornographic publications is rising continually. Most of them are sold openly all over the country. Though English language magazines led the way, now all regional languages in almost every country have several such publications and periodicals. The number of eloping, extramarital sex, illegitimate children, and all kinds of impurity is also in the rise.

The trend has shifted from God-centered life to a Man-centered one. This is not going to change. Rather, we will have to learn to preserve our purity in this kind of increasing anarchy.

### What Should You Do?

Without any doubt, you must preserve your purity-both before and after marriage. Since the Man-centered cultures of our generation have devised plenty of methods to seduce those who are not in the know of things, one must always be on the lookout for the enemy. It must become part of an overall strategy of life.

The first strategy is to keep inquiring as to what the Holy Scriptures say about sex, purity, and permissiveness. The second is to cultivate friends who would help you to hold on to Biblical values. The third is to run away from every influence that can adversely affect your mind.

Contrary to what many Christians think, the Bible has numerous statements related to the sexual life and conduct. An entire book called Song of Solomon is devoted to the

subject of man-woman relationship. Thus the more you explore the Holy Book, the more your viewpoint on the subject will become clear.

In the present age none of us can isolate ourselves from people who hold on to degenerate moral and spiritual values. The present-day cosmopolitan culture, mass education, and mega offices make it necessary for us to rub shoulders with all kinds of people. But rubbing shoulders or having a nodding acquaintance is different from having them as intimate friends. While we cannot negate social contact, we can surely keep people of degenerate value out from our inner circle. Ultimately it is the inner circle of peers that strongly influences one's moral behavior.

Choose friends, companions, and mentors who hold on to Biblical and God-centered values. Discuss with them things of value instead of idling away your time in fruitless discussion on politics or sports. The closer you find a person to God, the closer you should try to become with that person. This will strengthen you in the long run. On the other hand if you become too intimate with peers who have a radical outlook on morality, you will soon find your moral and spiritual

values eroding away. Peer pressure is the single largest factor in changing good, moral and God-fearing young people into lecherous fornicators. Flee from that kind of company.

Flee from every influence that affects your minds and bodies adversely. Anyone who runs like Joseph will never have to regret in the long run. Thus you must meticulously keep away from titillating and teasing magazines, books, TV programs and even songs.

Many people think very lightly of fantasies. Even many parents carelessly assume that exposing their children to influences that create mental fantasies is not all that harmful. On the contrary, mental fantasies reduce resistance against sin, make them seem desirable, and make it easy to indulge in sin when the right combination of circumstances is available.

The multi-media explosion worldwide has introduced cut throat competition among producers. Though the number of magazines, books and TV programs are increasing continually, the number of people who watch them is the same. Thus it is a mad competition to see who can get the largest audience, and thus the largest share



of money. Lust and violence are the well tried answer. Thus there is an effort to add more and more lustful or pure violent programs.

Continuous exposure to lust and violence on TV, in books, in magazines, and even in music is detrimental to the purity and mental sanity of young people. Keep away from these.

Also, you must avoid sitting in the company of people who have nothing except sex to talk about. Sexual stories, fantasies and jokes circulated in this kind of a company look like a harmless pastime, but they can have deep and long-lasting impact through destroying mental resistance and also by creating sexual fantasies. Avoid them like plague.

In matters related to purity, prevention is better than cure. The three important strategies are, discover what the Bible says, cultivate healthy friendship, and avoid everything that can break down your resistance to unholy things.

## Post-script: In Case You Already Lost It

Among my readers there will be some who have already compromised with their purity before reading the above pages. There will be a large number of readers who have kept themselves physically pure, but who have been not at all that careful about mental purity. Perhaps they have been indulging in small or large doses of conversation, reading, or listening to material that is sexual in nature. Is there a hope for them after this physical or mental contamination? The answer is YES.

While God does not encourage or overlook our indulgence with sin, He is merciful to receive us back if we ever realize and repent of our sins and failures. Just as the prodigal son was received back, any repentant person can expect the same welcome from the Father. The only condition is true repentance and turning back.

If you have been indulgent in the past, turn back. There is hope. Abandon your past lifestyle. repent and turn to God. Start rebuilding your broken spiritual life.

Remember, sin is sin even after it is forgiven. Divine forgiveness does not mean

divine approval of your past. No self justification. Accept that your past was sinful, and that you need to rebuild your life. Also, all sins have consequence-some less some more. Thus, forgiveness does not automatically cushion you away from the consequences of the choices you made in the past. What is different now, however, is God's mercy that uses these consequences to train you and mold you up into a better person.

There is hope for everyone, provided they do not indulge in self justification. The solution is repentance, abandoning the past lifestyle, and a long process of rebuilding with the help of God.

## About The Authors



Dr. Saneesh Cherian is an evangelist and teacher-writer from Plymouth Brethren Background. He studied under some of the greatest Brethren teachers of this generation at the Brethren Bible Institute during his BTh years. He then went on to study for MDiv, ThD and PhD under scholars of repute. He made a substantial academic contribution by serving as the Academic Dean of several Bible Seminaries.

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[Dr. Johnson C. Philip](#) is a senior Christian communicator, expositor, and apologist. A specialist in Quantum-nuclear Physics, he has done advanced studies in physics, archeology, communications and numismatics. He has authored more than 100 books and 10,000 articles.



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## Come, Let Us Go Back To The Bible!

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Every reform movement comes to slumber in a century or less. There are practically no exceptions in the last two millennia of church history. Thus each generation needs Ezras and Nehemiahs to rebuild the foundations that were once laid down but which are in ruins now! The only solution is to go back to the Bible and its fundamentals.

The authors stand unashamedly and without wavering on the following fundamental principles: Bible Alone (Sola Scriptura), Faith Alone (Sola Fide), Grace Alone (Sola Gratia), Christ Alone (Solus Christus). With this in mind we bring to you a set of writers who stand strong on these principles.

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