

THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

"Thou shalt not commit adultery." Exodus 20:14

A. The Command Itself:

1. Two words are commonly used to describe sins of impurity:
 - a. Fornication: Entering into marriage relationships when one is not married.
 - b. Adultery: Breaking the marriage vow of faithfulness to one's own wife or husband.
2. Why are these such terrible sins? (See 1 Corinthians 6:18)

3. What punishment was given for these sins? (Deuteronomy 22:22-24)

B. An Old Testament Example: Read Genesis 39:1-21

1. Who tempted Joseph to commit this sin? Genesis 39:7, 8

2. Against whom did Joseph say he would be sinning if he yielded to this temptation? Genesis 39:9

3. Did Joseph's positive answer end his temptations? Genesis 39:10, 12

4. How did Joseph keep from committing this sin? Genesis 39:2, 3

C. The Command in the New Testament:

1. How did Jesus say one could commit this sin?
 - a. Matthew 5:32 _____
 - b. Matthew 5:27, 28 _____
2. What two members of the body does Jesus mention as being particular offenders in breaking this commandment?
 - a. Matthew 5:29 _____
 - b. Matthew 5:30 _____
3. Where do the sins of fornication and adultery begin? Matthew 15:19

D. The Command in Present-Day Life:

1. Could the following contribute in any way to the breaking of this command?
 - a. Suggestive pictures or stories--on billboards, on calendars, in magazines, in movies, on television, etc.?
 - b. Immodest clothing?
 - c. Posture, bearing, or walk which calls attention to oneself?

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- d. The widespread lack of restraint in expressing affection, such as promiscuous holding of hands, embracing, kissing, "petting" etc.?
2. What attitude do people today sometimes have toward the breaking of this command? (See Jeremiah 6:15, 8:12)
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QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. (See 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20)
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2. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. (See 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17)
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3. Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators ... nor adulterers ... shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. (See 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
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4. I beseech you therefore ... that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice ... unto God. (See Romans 12:1)
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