

### III. PENALTIES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- I Corinthians 6<sup>9</sup> Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral (fornicators) nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men<sup>10</sup> nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.<sup>11</sup> And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.
- I Thessalonians 4<sup>3</sup> It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality;<sup>4</sup> that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable,<sup>5</sup> not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God;<sup>6</sup> and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before.<sup>7</sup> For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.<sup>8</sup> Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.
- Hebrews 13<sup>4</sup> Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

### HOPE BELIEVES COVENANT SEX PROTECTS US

- Protects our bodies & minds
  - Protects our young adults & women
  - Protects our society & children
- ❖ WHAT'S GOD SAYING TO YOU? – write it down, pray it back, share it with others! Heavenly Father, hope begins by believing you are GOOD! You made sex COVENANTAL for our good and protection. Thank You! I believe you are HOLY, yet FORGIVING. Please forgive me where I've been impure in my thoughts, words & actions, not honoring covenantal love. I believe You are EMPOWERING and INDWELLING. Fill me with Your Spirit, so I will be pure and loving like Jesus. I especially sense You telling me...

### BEGINNING WITH HOPE- story of a thief

#### HOPE BEGINS WITH JESUS

John 10<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. 15<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Romans 6<sup>11</sup> In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. 13 Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. 14 For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

Romans 8<sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.<sup>14</sup> For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Galatians 2<sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. 5<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Philippians 4<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. 9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

## HOPE BEGINS WITH GOD'S MARRIAGE DEFINITION

Malachi 3<sup>13</sup> You flood the LORD's altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer looks with favor on your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands. <sup>14</sup> You ask, "Why?" It is because the LORD is the witness between you and the wife of your youth. You have been unfaithful to her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant. <sup>15</sup> Has not the one God made you? You belong to him in body and spirit. And what does the one God seek? Godly offspring. So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful to the wife of your youth.

Mt 19<sup>4</sup> "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' <sup>5</sup> and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh?' <sup>6</sup> So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate."

### A. Marriage is SACRED because...

1. God made marriage and defined it- one man, one woman, one flesh in covenant
2. God gave sex a loving purpose- for His glory and our good- companionship, kids, furthering His Kingdom, our pleasure, and the power of testosterone to provide, protect, sacrifice and serve. (Gen 2, Prov 5, II Tim 2- see 9/19/21 Sermon)
3. God calls marriage a covenant, not a contract.

### B. Therefore...

1. Sex within marriage is good, pure, love building, commanded (Gen 1, Pro 5, I Cor 7)
2. Illicit sex is sinful, impure and destroys or lessens God's good, loving design, prohibited
3. "Causal" sex cannot be casual, for all sex is covenantal (physical, spiritual, emotional).
  - I Corinthians 6<sup>15</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." <sup>17</sup> But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit. <sup>18</sup> Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. <sup>19</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; <sup>20</sup> you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies.

## HOPE SEES THE CONSEQUENCES OF ILLICIT SEX- Dt 22:13-30

### I. BEFORE MARRIAGE

A. DEFINITION- fornication = sex between unmarried persons (no covenant protection)

B. PENALTY for sex without a covenant

1. Sex before marriage
  - a. Pay dad 50 shekels = 200 days wages
  - b. Must marry
  - c. Never divorce
  - d. Dad gets to decide if they marry (Ex 22:16-17)
2. For accusations of fornication (once married)
  - a. If the husband falsely accuses his wife of fornication...
    - Pay dad 100 shekels = 400 days wages
    - No divorce ever allowed
  - b. If accusations are true- stoned at her father's house
3. Implications of fornication because sex is covenantal
  - a. Make covenant now or break one later
  - b. Fornication defrauds future spouse & marriage
  - c. Unconfessed fornication before marriage = death
  - d. No divorce – fornication brings a heavier covenant
  - e. Non-covenantal sex affects the genders differently
    - Men- expensive, hefty fines, no divorce – to provide
    - Women- dangerous, life threatening (w/ legal proof)

### II. AFTER MARRIAGE & BETROTHAL- death penalty to both parties

Applied spiritually...we made a commitment to Jesus (covenant) so our sin is adulterous-

- Jeremiah 3<sup>14</sup> "Return, faithless people," declares the LORD, "for I am your husband.
- James 4<sup>4</sup> You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup> Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?