

God's Word About Adultery

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife...you shall not commit adultery.” Exodus 20:14, 17

According to the Bible, adultery (marital sexual unfaithfulness) is serious sin that devastates marriage partners and destroys their marriage relationship. **The act of adultery strikes at the very heart of commitment to the marriage covenant.**

Sexual infidelity towards a marriage partner is **the ultimate relationship betrayal**. The sacred bond of faithfulness entered into through exchanging of vows at the wedding ceremony to remain sexually faithful to each other for life shatters trust, confidence and security in the covenant of marriage. **Stepping outside of the marriage bed destroys the foundation of the holy union God intended for one man and one woman to share.**

The Bible stands firm against adultery. Numerous passages make reference to God’s deep concern about adultery and its impact on marriage and family relationships. In fact, the command *“You shall not commit adultery”* is repeated five times in the New Testament. Further substantiation of God’s attitude is found in the instruction of the apostle Paul to the church.

It is God’s will that you should be sanctified; that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.” I Thessalonians 4:3-7

“Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness.” I Timothy 2:22

“Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.” Romans 13:14

These and the following Scriptures and biblical moral principles leave no room for doubting God’s prohibition on any adulterous behavior.

GOD’S ATTITUDE TOWARD ADULTERY

➤ ADULTERY IS OUT OF THE HEART

“Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony and slander.”
Matthew 15:19

➤ **UNREPENTANT ADULTERERS DO NOT GO TO HEAVEN**

“Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor male prostitutes, nor homosexual offenders, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor slanderers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.”
I Corinthians 6:9-10

➤ **GOD WILL JUDGE THE ADULTERER**

“Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and the sexually immoral.”
Hebrews 13:4

➤ **ADULTERY CAN BE AVOIDED**

“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the well-spring of life.” Proverbs 4:23

“Proverbs 4:13-27 (Stay far from the path of evil)

Proverbs 6:27-28 (Don't play with fire!).

Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned? Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched?”

➤ **SHUN ADULTERY**

See and Study Proverbs 6:20-35

➤ **THE ADULTERESS'S SNARE LEADS TO MISERY**

See and Study Proverbs 7”1-27

➤ **THE ADULTERESS'S SNARE IS A DEEP PIT**

“The mouth of an adulteress is a deep pit; he who is under the Lord's wrath will fall into it.”
Proverbs 22:14

➤ **DAVID FED THE FLAME OF ADULTERY**

“One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find about her.”
II Samuel 11:2-3

➤ **DAVID WAS DEEPLY DEPRESSED BEFORE HE CONFESSED HIS SIN**

“See Psalm 32:3-5

➤ **NATHAN CALLED DAVID TO REPENT OF HIS ADULTERY**

II Samuel 12-14. (The prophet Nathan spoke to King David in a parable after he had sinned with Bathsheba.)

➤ **DAVID CONFESSED HIS ADULTERY AND GOD GRACIOUSLY FORGAVE HIM**

“See and study Psalm 32 and Psalm 51. (David pleaded for God’s forgiveness and cleansing and expressed his joy after being forgiven.)

➤ **GOD FORGIVES THE SIN OF ADULTERY AND FREES THE SINNER FROM IT**

“That adulterers etc. is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”
I Corinthians 6:11

➤ **LOOKING ON A WOMAN LUSTFULLY IS ADULTERY; SPIRITUAL SURGERY IS NEEDED**

“You have heard that it was said, “Do not commit adultery.” But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.” *Matthew 5:27-30*

➤ **BEWARE OF SEDUCTIVE WOMEN**

“Stolen water is sweet; food eaten in secret is delicious! But little do they know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of the grave.” Proverbs 9:17-18

➤ **KEEP THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT**

“Exodus 20:17 “YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.”

➤ **ANYONE WHO MARRIES A WRONGFULLY DIVORCED PERSON COMMITS ADULTERY**

“It has been said, “Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorcement.” But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to commit adultery, and anyone who marries a woman so divorced commits adultery.” Matthew 5:31-32

➤ **ANYONE WHO DIVORCES HIS OR HER SPOUSE FOR ANY REASON OTHER THAN ADULTERY AND MARRIES ANOTHER COMMITS ADULTERY**

See Matthew 19:9 and Romans 7:2-3

➤ **WHEN HE WAS TEMPTED BY POTIPHAR’S WIFE TO COMMIT ADULTERY, JOSEPH REFUSED TO SIN AGAINST GOD AND MAN**

See and study Genesis 39:6-20 for the complete story of Joseph’s personal triumph over sexual temptation.

Genesis 39:9-10. “How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God? And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.”

CONSEQUENCES OF ADULTERY

_____ Following is an incomplete list of what you have in store after your immorality is found out. And it will be found out! (See Numbers 32:23)

* Your mate will experience the anguish of betray, shame, rejection, heartache and loneliness. No amount of repentance will soften those blows.

* Your mate can never say again that you are a model of fidelity. Suspicion will rob her or him of trust.

* Your escapade(s) will introduce into your life and your mate's life the very real probability of sexually transmitted diseases.

* The total devastation your sinful actions will bring to your children will be immeasurable. Their growth, innocence, trust, and healthy outlook on life will be severely and permanently damaged.

* The heartache you will cause your parents, your family, and your peers is indescribable.

* The embarrassment of facing other Christians, who once appreciated you, respected you, and trusted you will be overwhelming.

* If you are engaged in the Lord's work, you will suffer immediate loss of your job and the support of those with whom you worked. The dark shadow will accompany you everywhere... forever.

* Forgiveness won't erase it.

* Your fall will give others license to do the same.

* The inner peace you once enjoyed will be all gone.

* You will never be able to erase the fall from your (or other's) mind. This will remain indelibly etched on your life's record, regardless of your later return to your senses.

* The name of Jesus Christ, whom you once honored, will be tarnished, giving the enemies of faith reason to sneer and jeer.

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