

BEFORE
You Say
“I Do”

The Lord Seeks a Godly Seed

My Opinion:

**More people endanger their
salvation because of
SEXUAL SINS
than for any other reason**

FACT:

It's
HARDEST
For
YOU

Sexual Sins

- They **DON'T** go away when you get married
- Sex is **NOT** a “Bad Thing”

1st Corinthians 7:1-2 (Message)

- 1) Now, getting down to the questions you asked in your letter to me. First, Is it a good thing to have sexual relations?
- 2) Certainly - **BUT ONLY WITHIN A CERTAIN CONTEXT**. It's good for a man to have a wife, and for a woman to have a husband. Sexual drives are strong, but marriage is strong enough to contain them and provide for a balanced and fulfilling sexual life in a world of sexual disorder.

But, only within a certain context...

- That “Context” is **MARRIAGE**
- Before Marriage, all forms of sexual relations are **SINFUL**
- **EVERY FORM** of sexual contact is incredibly **TEMPTING**

God's Plan for Us

- Before Marriage, it is a **SIN** to indulge your Passions
- After Marriage, it is a **PRIVILEGE** to fulfill those same desires

Hebrews 13:4 (Message)

- 4) HONOR MARRIAGE, and guard the sacredness of sexual intimacy between wife and husband. GOD DRAWS A FIRM LINE AGAINST CASUAL AND ILLICIT SEX.
- HONOR Marriage!
 - God draws a FIRM LINE against casual and illicit sex!

Dating

- **WHERE** we “*Draw the Line*” is in Dating
- If you want to serve God, you have to get your **DATING LIFE** under control

7 Things to Beware of in Dating

- 1) Dating leads to Intimacy, but **NOT** Necessarily to Commitment

1st *Corinthians 6:16-17 (Message)*

- 16) There's more to sex than mere skin on skin. Sex is as much spiritual mystery as physical fact. As written in Scripture, "The two become one."
- 17) Since we want to become spiritually one with the Master, **WE MUST NOT PURSUE THE KIND OF SEX THAT AVOIDS COMMITMENT AND INTIMACY**, leaving us more lonely than ever - the kind of sex that can never "become one."

7 Things to Beware of in Dating

- 2) Dating tends to **SKIP** the “Friendship” Stage of a Relationship

7 Things to Beware of in Dating

3) Dating often **MISTAKES** a “Physical Relationship” for Love

Galatians 5:19 (Message)

- 19) It is obvious what kind of life develops out of trying to get your own way all the time: repetitive, loveless, cheap sex; a stinking accumulation of mental and emotional garbage; frenzied and joyless grabs for happiness

7 Things to Beware of in Dating

- 4) Dating often **ISOLATES** a Couple from other Important Relationships

7 Things to Beware of in Dating

- 5) Dating often **DISTRACTS** Young People from Preparing for the Future

7 Things to Beware of in Dating

6) Dating can cause **DISCONTENTMENT** with God's gift of "Singleness"

1st *Corinthians 7:32-33 (NLT)*

- 32) In everything you do, **I WANT YOU TO BE FREE FROM THE CONCERNS OF THIS LIFE.** An unmarried man can spend his time doing the Lord's work and thinking how to please him.
- 33) But a married man can't do that so well. He has to think about his earthly responsibilities and how to please his wife.

7 Things to Beware of in Dating

- 7) Dating creates an **ARTIFICIAL** Environment for Properly Evaluating Another Person's Character

1st Samuel 16:7 (NLT)

- 7) But the LORD said to Samuel, “Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The LORD doesn’t make decisions the way you do! People judge by outward appearance, but **THE LORD LOOKS AT A PERSON’S THOUGHTS AND INTENTIONS.**”

7 Things to Beware of in Dating

- 1) Intimacy, but **NOT** Commitment
- 2) **SKIPS** the “Friendship” Stage
- 3) **MISTAKES** “Physical” for “Love”
- 4) Often **ISOLATES** a Couple
- 5) **DISTRACTS** from Preparing
- 6) Can Cause **DISCONTENTMENT**
- 7) Is an **ARTIFICIAL** Environment

But, Wait! What about?...

How **FAR** Can You Go?

1st *Corinthians 6:9-10 (NIV)*

- 9) 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
- 10) nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers **WILL INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD.**

But, Wait! What about?...

How **FAR** Can You Go?

Any time your **PASSION** and
your **EMOTIONS** are doing the
thinking for you, and you have
stopped thinking rationally...

*You are in danger of a **SEXUAL SIN!***

1st *Thessalonians 4:3-5 (NLT)*

- 3) GOD WANTS YOU TO BE HOLY, so you should KEEP CLEAR OF ALL SEXUAL SIN.
- 4) Then each of you will control your body and live in holiness and honor
- 5) not in lustful passion as the pagans do, in their ignorance of God and His ways.

The Bottom Line

God wants you to be **HOLY!**

So **KEEP CLEAR** of

ALL

SEXUAL SIN!