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Sermon Notes

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## **Embracing Sexual Purity in an Impure World**

### **Proverbs**

Introduction: The Siege of Malta

When I was in Japan, I read the most exciting historical account of my life...

- 1565: small island of Malta in the Mediterranean; a massive invading force from Turkish ruler Suleiman the Magnificent
- The Muslims trying to gain control of the island as a base of invasion for Western Europe
- Defending it: a small force led by the Order of the Knights of St. John's Hospitaller
- Outnumbered 8 to 1, the Knights defended the walled fortress fanatically and held off wave after wave of Turkish assaults
- On August 18<sup>th</sup>, however, the Turks opened a small breach in the wall and began pouring into that breach... if they could widen it, the fortress would fall; everything depended now on closing that breach in the wall
- The commander of the defenders, Jean Parisot de la Vallette, hearing that the walls had been breached, immediately ran down and stood in the breach with his sword in his hand and fought viciously until the enemy was forced to retreat... that evening, the townspeople repaired the breach in the wall and continued the next day to defend that weak spot with tremendous valor

As a result the city was saved, and perhaps the continent of Europe rescued from a massive Muslim invasion based from the Island of Malta

I have never forgotten that account... the courage of a single man, jumping down, sword in hand, to plug a breach in the city wall

As I come to three powerful chapters on sexual purity from the Book of Proverbs, I can't help but think of our Lord Jesus Christ as the courageous warrior, jumping down sword in hand to the breach in the wall... defending the city from the imminent danger that that breach poses

About a century later than that siege of Malta, John Bunyan wrote an allegory of the Christian warfare against sin called “The Holy War”

There he likened an individual Christian’s soul to a walled city... the city of “Mansoul”... like a walled city, the human soul has some vulnerabilities; and since the fall of Adam and Eve, no breach in the wall has proved as dangerous as SEX...

This is implied by the effect of the sin of eating the fruit...

Before:

***Genesis 2:25 The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.***

After:

***Genesis 3:7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.***

***Genesis 3:10 "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."***

Clearly sin immediately did something to the MINDS of both man and woman, and made sexuality a terrible weak spot for the rest of human history

Sexuality is like a breach in the wall of mansoul... and without incredible courage and wisdom from the word of God, and without the valor of our Captain and Commander, Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, the enemy will flood in through the breach and bring about incredible destruction

One commentator on the Ten Commandments said this: “About 50% of all human misery is caused by the violation of the seventh commandment, “Thou shalt not commit adultery.””

- So many have already fallen

This breach in the wall has already proved the ruin of more souls than I can recount here

If you live long enough, you will hear tales and perhaps even experience the immense tragedy of sexual immorality

I was first shocked by the fall of a well-known pastor when Christi and I were engaged... Gordon MacDonald was the pastor of Grace Chapel in Lexington, where I had attended... he was a well-known leader of the evangelical world in New England, but the news came out that he’d committed adultery, and I was stunned; Christi and I talked about it and how devastating it was that someone you trusted fell

Others in the so-called evangelical world have also fallen—you know their names

And many in the general population fall as well... just about every month, some important figure—a politician, a government leader, a well-known sports figure or

entertainer, is caught in some sexual sin and has to resign or admit the sin or be humiliated in some way

Add to this the incredible increase in sexual temptation caused by the easy access to pornography of the internet and this issue could not be more deadly

- The issue is LUST

***Matthew 5:27-28 "You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' <sup>28</sup> But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.***

***James 1:14-15 each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. <sup>15</sup> Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.***

HOW CAN WE SURVIVE?

HOW CAN WE ENDURE this raging animal of lust that resides in our hearts?

***Romans 7:15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.***

***Romans 7:21-23 So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God's law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members.***

The word of God, the blood of Jesus, and the indwelling Spirit are the only forces powerful enough to oppose this tidal force of sexual allure

The Book of Proverbs gives us three extended treatments on the dangers of adultery

Proverbs 5, 6, and 7

All three are couched in the terms of a father's advice to his almost fully grown son

Though the language is one-sided, warning a son against the wiles of an adulterous woman, yet the lessons are applicable for BOTH men and women

For men, it's clear: guard your hearts against lusting after women... and for your part, do not entice a woman yourself.

For women, guard your hearts against the wiles of a predatory man, one seeking to woo you and win you and speak sweetly to you, but who in the end will destroy you; and for yourself, do not ALLURE a man sexually by how you act and how you dress

Strategy for preaching: I will go generally through the three chapters and primarily let the passages speak for themselves

At the end I will draw out common themes and applications from all three chapters

Then, I will point to the most powerful remedy there is to the danger of lust

## I. Proverbs 5: The Folly of Adultery and the Wisdom of Marriage

### A. The Text

***Proverbs 5:1-23 My son, pay attention to my wisdom, listen well to my words of insight, <sup>2</sup> that you may maintain discretion and your lips may preserve knowledge. <sup>3</sup> For the lips of an adulteress drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil; <sup>4</sup> but in the end she is bitter as gall, sharp as a double-edged sword. <sup>5</sup> Her feet go down to death; her steps lead straight to the grave. <sup>6</sup> She gives no thought to the way of life; her paths are crooked, but she knows it not. <sup>7</sup> Now then, my sons, listen to me; do not turn aside from what I say. <sup>8</sup> Keep to a path far from her, do not go near the door of her house, <sup>9</sup> lest you give your best strength to others and your years to one who is cruel, <sup>10</sup> lest strangers feast on your wealth and your toil enrich another man's house. <sup>11</sup> At the end of your life you will groan, when your flesh and body are spent. <sup>12</sup> You will say, "How I hated discipline! How my heart spurned correction! <sup>13</sup> I would not obey my teachers or listen to my instructors. <sup>14</sup> I have come to the brink of utter ruin in the midst of the whole assembly." <sup>15</sup> Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well. <sup>16</sup> Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? <sup>17</sup> Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers. <sup>18</sup> May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. <sup>19</sup> A loving doe, a graceful deer-- may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be captivated by her love. <sup>20</sup> Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress? Why embrace the bosom of another man's wife? <sup>21</sup> For a man's ways are in full view of the LORD, and he examines all his paths. <sup>22</sup> The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast. <sup>23</sup> He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly.***

### B. Basic Concepts

1. A father's loving advice: keep away from the adulteress and embrace your wife instead
2. The adulteress is described as a deceptive enemy: initially, as sweet as honey, but in the end as bitter as gall
3. The deadly danger: in the end she leads to death

4. The remedy:
  - a. Understand where that road leads... a highway to public shame, ruin, and ultimately hell
  - b. Keep far from her
  - c. Instead embrace your wife fully as a gift from God... enjoy sexual relations with her, invest your heart fully with her, she is your loving friend, your partner for life

*Vs. 15 Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well.*

*Vs. 18-20 May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth.*

*<sup>19</sup> A loving doe, a graceful deer-- may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be captivated by her love. <sup>20</sup> Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress? Why embrace the bosom of another man's wife?*

5. Don't forget that everything you do is in FULL VIEW of God and he will bring you to judgment for the sin of adultery

## II. Proverbs 6: The Severe, Inevitable, Unending Penalty of Adultery

### A. The Text Outlined

[A father's wisdom will protect you]

1. The danger: the "immoral woman", "wayward wife" (vs. 24)
2. Her weapons: her "smooth tongue" (vs. 24), her physical beauty (vs. 25), her alluring eyes (vs. 25)
  - a. The "smooth tongue" implies her speech, which usually panders to the MALE EGO...more on this when we get to chapter 7; it also involves a sultry tone of voice, an alluring use of the voice
  - b. Physical beauty... including hair, make-up, figure, skillfully alluringly packaged with clothing that shows just enough skin, etc.
  - c. Alluring eyes: captivating him with a flutter, a glance, a smile

These are the WEAPONS she uses to reduce the man to a pile of rubble... they have been effective for millennia

3. The first danger: lust (vs. 25)

***"Do not lust in your heart after her beauty, or let her captivate you with her eyes..."***

4. Reduced and threatened: a huntress who seeks prey (vs. 26)

***Proverbs 6:26 for the prostitute reduces you to a loaf of bread, and the adulteress preys upon your very life.***

- a. Lust and sexual immorality is a reduction of the person to mere BODY
  - b. Pornography reduces a whole human being to an IMAGE... so also the prostitute reduces a MAN to a MEAL
  - c. Even worse, the adulteress “preys upon your very life”... unlike the prostitute, she wants YOU long term, she wants to OWN you
5. Punishment inevitable: (vs. 27-29)

***Proverbs 6:27-29 Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned?  
<sup>28</sup> Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? <sup>29</sup> So is he who sleeps with another man's wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished.***

6. Punishment severe: (vs. 30-33)

***Proverbs 6:30-33 Men do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his hunger when he is starving. <sup>31</sup> Yet if he is caught, he must pay sevenfold, though it costs him all the wealth of his house. <sup>32</sup> But a man who commits adultery lacks judgment; whoever does so destroys himself. <sup>33</sup> Blows and disgrace are his lot, and his shame will never be wiped away***

7. Punishment unending: (vs. 33-35, 1 Corinthians 6:9, Hebrews 13:4)

***Proverbs 6:33-35 his shame will never be wiped away; <sup>34</sup> for jealousy arouses a husband's fury, and he will show no mercy when he takes revenge. <sup>35</sup> He will not accept any compensation; he will refuse the bribe, however great it is.***

Those are just the EARTHLY consequences!!! They last a LIFETIME!!!!

I remember coming back from Japan after two years away as a missionary... I sat down with a friend who had resigned as elder of the church I had pastored; though I suspected what had happened, I sat down with him to discuss it. He confirmed that he'd committed adultery with a woman from our church that he was counseling. He told me **“It's like a big rock got thrown into a lake and the ripples keep moving across the lake hitting different parts of the shore line at different times. I'll never be free of the consequences of what I've done.”** He alluded to the fact that his children were too young to understand now, but later, he'd have to have this same painful conversation with them as well!!!

How much more the ETERNAL CONSEQUENCES of adultery:

***1 Corinthians 6:9-10 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 <sup>10</sup> nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.*

### III. Proverbs 7: A Seduction Observed and Analyzed

#### A. The Text Outlined

##### 1. A Warning to heed words of wisdom (vs. 1-5)

***Proverbs 7:1-5 My son, keep my words and store up my commands within you. <sup>2</sup> Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye. <sup>3</sup> Bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart. <sup>4</sup> Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," and call understanding your kinsman; <sup>5</sup> they will keep you from the adulteress, from the wayward wife with her seductive words.***

##### 2. A seduction observed: The King watches unseen (vs. 6)

***Proverbs 7:6 At the window of my house I looked out through the lattice***

- a. Solomon, watching from his lofty window, sees this silent drama
- b. Dear friends, this is a picture of GOD as He silently observes EVERY encounter on earth
- c. More in a moment

EVERYTHING we do is observed... so even though it's twilight, and few people can see, God is still watching from above

##### 3. The foolish young man described (vs. 7-9): "naïve", "lacking judgment", going to the wrong place, at the wrong time

***Proverbs 7:7-9 I saw among the simple, I noticed among the young men, a youth who lacked judgment. <sup>8</sup> He was going down the street near her corner, walking along in the direction of her house <sup>9</sup> at twilight, as the day was fading, as the dark of night set in.***

##### 4. The seductress and her weapons described (vs. 10-21)

- a. Dressed like a prostitute
  - i) Dear friends, this is a CRUCIAL issue
  - ii) The phrase "like a prostitute" means that her clothes communicate a desire for sex
  - iii) Obviously it is essential to a prostitute's "business" to wear clothes that identify her willingness to sleep with a man for money

- iv) Without such clothing, she will not be able to ply her evil trade
- v) But here is a WIFE who is dressed like a prostitute
- vi) The clothing might be alluring, they might show some of her figure, they might be of a certain color... whatever, in HER CULTURE it communicates clearly her intention
- vii) Nowadays, our popular culture is driving women's clothing style to be more and more revealing...
- viii) I will speak more about this at the end of the sermon
- ix) Simply put at this present time, let me urge all of my Christian sisters to ask God to search their hearts concerning their wardrobe and why they choose certain outfits
- x) This particular woman has put her sign out in public for all to see...

b. Crafty intent: she has PLANNED OUT this encounter... he hasn't

- i) She has the food ready... meat she sacrificed to God and now wants to serve as part of her adulterous trap

***Proverbs 7:14 "I have fellowship offerings at home; today I fulfilled my vows.***

- ii) She has the bed ready with spices and soft fabrics and sensory allurements

***Proverbs 7:16-17 I have covered my bed with colored linens from Egypt. <sup>17</sup> I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes and cinnamon.***

- iii) She has thought the whole thing through... the trap is baited and set

c. Rebellious attitude... wild at heart

***Proverbs 7:11-12 (She is loud and defiant, her feet never stay at home; <sup>12</sup> now in the street, now in the squares, at every corner she lurks.)***

- d. Brazen initiative and Shocking physical touch

***Proverbs 7:13 She took hold of him and kissed him and with a brazen face she said***

- e. Religious hypocrisy

***Proverbs 7:14 "I have fellowship offerings at home; today I fulfilled my vows.***



Young Christian people... don't be deceived by someone who is a regular attender at church, who is in your Christian fellowship group, or who you know from church... these are the very things that will cause you to let your guard down!!!

f. A stream of FLATTERY

***Proverbs 7:15 So I came out to meet you; I looked for you and have found you!***

WHAT A LIE!!! He was just wandering around near her house; now she's flattering him that he's the only one for her!

This begins a verbal assault not unlike siege cannon firing away at a fortress wall:

***Proverbs 7:21 With persuasive words she led him astray; she seduced him with her smooth talk.***

- I am really a good girl: I am no whore: sleeping with me will not be sin (7:14).
- I have made many preparations and have lots of things for a great time (7:14).
- My motives are very noble in wanting to share my good time with you (7:15).
- I have waited a long time and dreamed often of finding a man like you (7:15).
- I am so glad I found you, because I do not want to be with anyone else (7:15).
- It is so wonderful to be alone with you and feel the passion between us (7:15).
- I have wanted to meet you for a long time; I have made preparations (7:16).
- I have arranged things for the ultimate, perfect lovemaking between us (7:16).
- I know special things you will love, that other boring women overlook (7:17).
- I care about you more than any other woman, so I go to greater efforts (7:17).
- We surely have a love between us that no one else has ever had before (7:18).
- Let us fully experience the depths of this unique, special love we have (7:18).
- No woman has ever felt as strongly about any man as I feel for you (7:18).
- Our lovemaking will exceed all the lovemaking in the world's history (7:18).
- The comfort and pleasure we can find in each other will be wonderful (7:18).
- Our love and pleasure will last all night ... and all our lives ... forever (7:18).
- Don't worry about any risk, for my husband is on a long business trip (7:19).

- He loves business more than me: I need your love and body so much (7:19).
- There is no risk of getting caught; I have figured everything out for us (7:20).
- He has money, which he loves; we have love, his money cannot buy (7:20).

g. The SHOCKING PROPOSITION: Like a hammer blow on his resolve

***Proverbs 7:18 Come, let's drink deep of love till morning; let's enjoy ourselves with love!***

5. The young man's tragic decision and devastating end:

***Proverbs 7:22-23 All at once he followed her like an ox going to the slaughter, like a deer stepping into a noose <sup>23</sup> till an arrow pierces his liver, like a bird darting into a snare, little knowing it will cost him his life.***

My whole desire here is to remove this statement: LITTLE KNOWING it will cost him his life

O dear friends, this cannot be said of you... YOU KNOW... the end of adultery is not hidden from you

#### B. A Father's Loving Application

***Proverbs 7:24-27 Now then, my sons, listen to me; pay attention to what I say. <sup>25</sup> Do not let your heart turn to her ways or stray into her paths. <sup>26</sup> Many are the victims she has brought down; her slain are a mighty throng. <sup>27</sup> Her house is a highway to the grave, leading down to the chambers of death***

1. A "highway to hell"... the road passes through the house of adultery
2. This is not an overstatement: Jesus Himself linked lust with hell

***Matthew 5:28-29 I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup> 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.***

3. This loving father speaks of a "mighty throng" the adulteress has brought down... she is MIGHTIER than Samson, who killed a thousand Philistines with the jawbone of a donkey... Samson himself was slain by Delilah's charms

## IV. Themes and Applications

### A. Without Heart Preparation in the Word, You Will Lose

1. In all three chapters, the account begins with the father's appeal to listen to the wisdom of his words and take them deeply to heart
2. SO ALSO we must prepare our hearts to battle sexual immorality by saturating them in the word
3. We have to anticipate that Satan will come after us powerfully

B. Understand the Techniques of Seduction... and Flee Them!

1. Ladies: please watch how you dress
  - a. Carolyn Mahaney has put together a very helpful self-assessment tool
  - b. She starts with the HEART motive on why you dress like you do... what are you after?

**John MacArthur** "How does a woman discern the sometimes fine line between proper dress and dressing to be the center of attention? The answer starts in the intent of the heart. A woman should examine her motives and goals for the way she dresses. Is her intent to show the grace and beauty of womanhood? Is it to reveal a humble heart devoted to worshipping God? Or is it to call attention to herself and flaunt her beauty? Or worse, to attempt to lure men sexually? A woman who focuses on worshipping God will consider carefully how she is dressed, because *her heart will dictate her wardrobe and appearance.*"

- c. Dear Sisters in Christ: if your motive as you choose your outfits is that men will notice your body and be attracted to it, you are not dressing for the glory of God

***1 Timothy 2:9-10 I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, <sup>10</sup> but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.***

- d. Carolyn Mahaney gets very specific about blouses and skirts and how much they reveal and what to do about it... CHECKLIST IN RESOURCE CENTER
  - e. Please keep in mind that, while your brother in Christ is responsible for his own heart and his own lust, you can serve your brother well by dressing modestly
2. Friends: DON'T FLIRT... be very careful how you speak to a member of the opposite sex

guard against seducing words in notes, emails, cards, chat rooms, telephone messages, letters, codes, and other forms of correspondence. We can communicate with others more easily today than ever before, and wisdom demands you to be careful in all these new dangers of the 21st Century.

Christian women, be careful in your speech to men other than your father or husband. Be sober. Hate flirting or flattery.

3. Don't be willfully ignorant of the effect you have on members of the opposite sex
4. Workplace techniques of seduction: be aware of what people do to attract members of the opposite sex: flattery, close working relationships, the dangers of business trips and group projects, etc. NEVER LET YOUR GUARD DOWN!!!

### C. The Hidden and Terrifying Costs of Lust and Adultery

1. Maybe only a percentage of you will actually commit physical adultery... although the threat is clear from these chapters
2. BUT all of you will struggle with lust... and lust is absolutely deadly to the soul
3. Set standards for what you will gaze on with your eyes... perhaps you would not spend a night with a woman dressed like a prostitute... but you might watch her on a DVD or cable TV program
4. SET before you the incredible danger of playing with fire... can you scoop live coals into your lap and not be burned? Can you honestly say you're safe in this area
5. I was reading about a man in an executive fast track job with a beautiful family... a wife nine-months pregnant with their third son;
  - a. Foolishly hired a beautiful young woman to be his secretary... she began enticing him by her clothes and her conversation and her innuendo and laughter and flattery; she sat next to him at the company lunchroom; he was attracted to the attention and the flirting
  - b. He drank too much at an office Christmas party, and slipped off with this attractive young woman to a hotel room and destroyed his world for a few moments of pleasure...
  - c. When he got home that night, he saw that his wife and two sons had made some special Christmas decorations just to please him... he felt immediately a stab of guilt... "WHAT HAVE I DONE??"

- d. But when he saw the secretary the next day, she was pleased to see him and began flattering him even more with more explicit things
- e. He went with her a few more times, justifying it somehow
- f. She started texting him, e-mailing him, pursuing more with him... he tried to delete all of the electronic evidence, but the non-verbals at the office were obvious to all... it started to become a scandal
- g. His wife discovered a particularly explicit e-mail and she uncovered the whole thing... she left him with the two boys;
- h. He was forced to resign from his job
- i. His wife divorced him and got his access to their sons greatly curtailed; he lost his house to pay for the lawyer's fees, and ended up homeless
- j. Ridiculous story... but utterly believable... it is IMPOSSIBLE to play with adultery and not pay the price

***Proverbs 6:27-29 Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned?  
<sup>28</sup> Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? <sup>29</sup> So is he who sleeps with another man's wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished.***

D. The Hidden Observer of All We Do

- 1. God sees it all... people go out at night and skulk around doing things they would be ashamed of if seen in broad daylight

***Job 24:15 The eye of the adulterer watches for dusk; he thinks, 'No eye will see me,' and he keeps his face concealed.***

- 2. But Job knew the truth

***Job 31:1-4 "I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a girl. <sup>2</sup> For what is man's lot from God above, his heritage from the Almighty on high? <sup>3</sup> Is it not ruin for the wicked, disaster for those who do wrong? <sup>4</sup> Does he not see my ways and count my every step?"***

- 3. Jesus proclaimed it too

***Luke 12:2-3 There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. <sup>3</sup> What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight, and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs.***

4. One of two keys to sexual purity: negatively, FEAR THE LORD!!! And His righteous judgments on sin

5. Now, two positive remedies

E. The First Positive Remedy: Delight in Your Wife

***Proverbs 5:15-19 Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well. <sup>16</sup> Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? <sup>17</sup> Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers. <sup>18</sup> May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. <sup>19</sup> A loving doe, a graceful deer-- may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be captivated by her love.***

1. Husbands: begin dating your wives again... win her heart; build her up, delight in her, look on her as your safe haven and refuge in this hurricane of sexual seduction

2. Wives: delight yourselves in the role you have for your husbands; make yourselves available, gladly available, to them

F. The Highest Remedy... see below!! (“I will show you the most excellent way!”)

## V. Love, Not Fear, Will Ultimately Defeat Lust

A. Most Arguments Against Lust are Negative and Fear-Based

1. Be pure, or you will feel guilty

2. Be pure, or your marriage will fail

3. Be pure, or you might get pregnant or a sexually transmitted disease

4. Be pure, or you might face public shame

These negative threats rarely have the power to defeat lust... they just make us terrified and miserable, though they do have a role to play

However, the real power to defeat lust is POSITIVE

Jesus gave it to us in the Sermon on the Mount:

***Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.***

B. The Biggest Danger with Lust: It Blocks our Intimacy with God

C. The Biggest Power for Defeating Lust: A Deeper Yearning for God

*Psalm 63:1-3 O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water. <sup>2</sup> I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. <sup>3</sup> Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.*