

# 1 CORINTHIANS

The Gospel  
in Community

WHEN FAITH AND LIFE COLLIDE

## Study 7

### THE GOSPEL AND SEXUALITY

I Corinthians 6:12-20





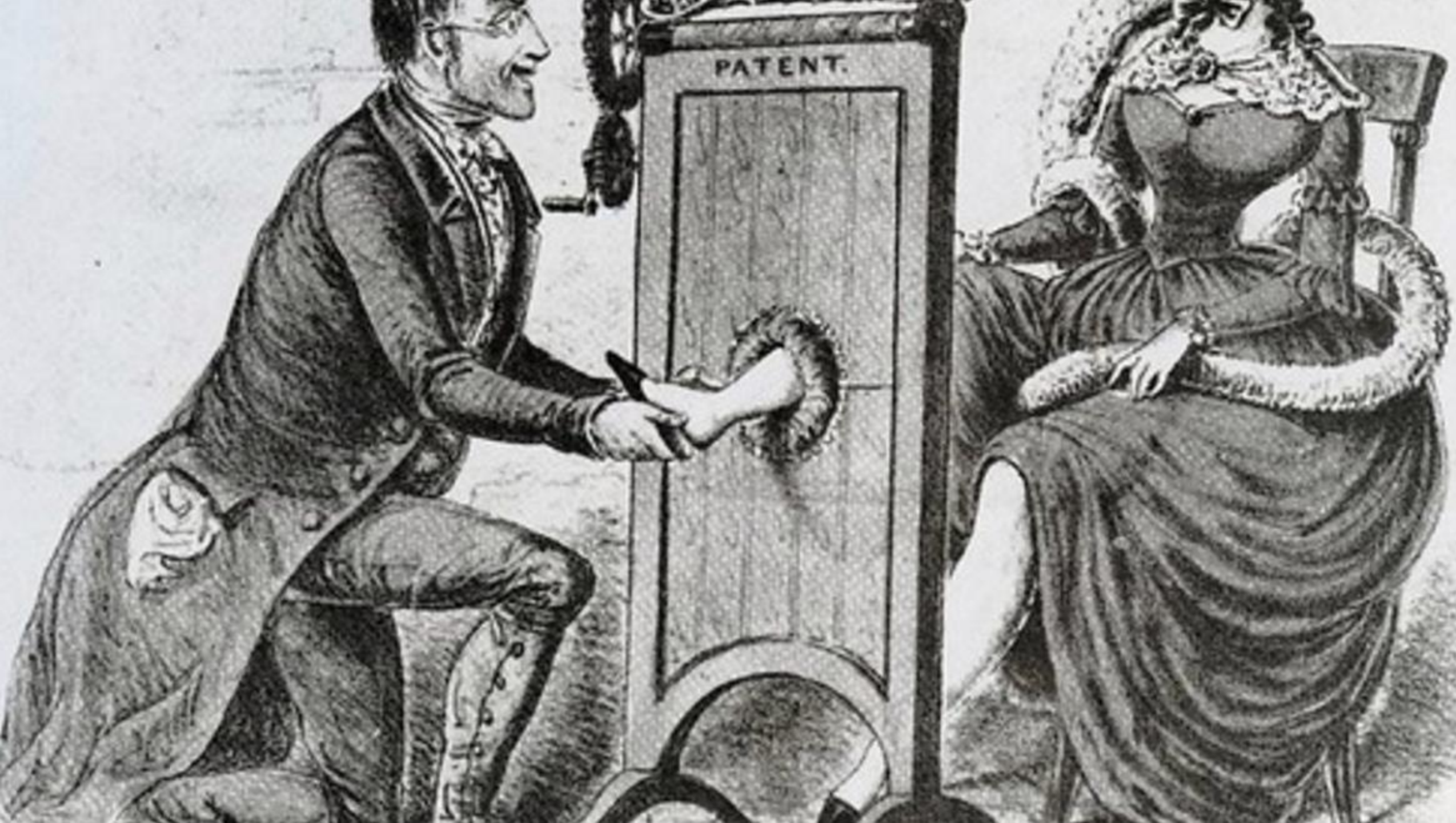
# TWO EXTREMES

1 Cor 6: 12 “All things are lawful for me,” .....Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food



1 Cor 7:1 (ESV) It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.”





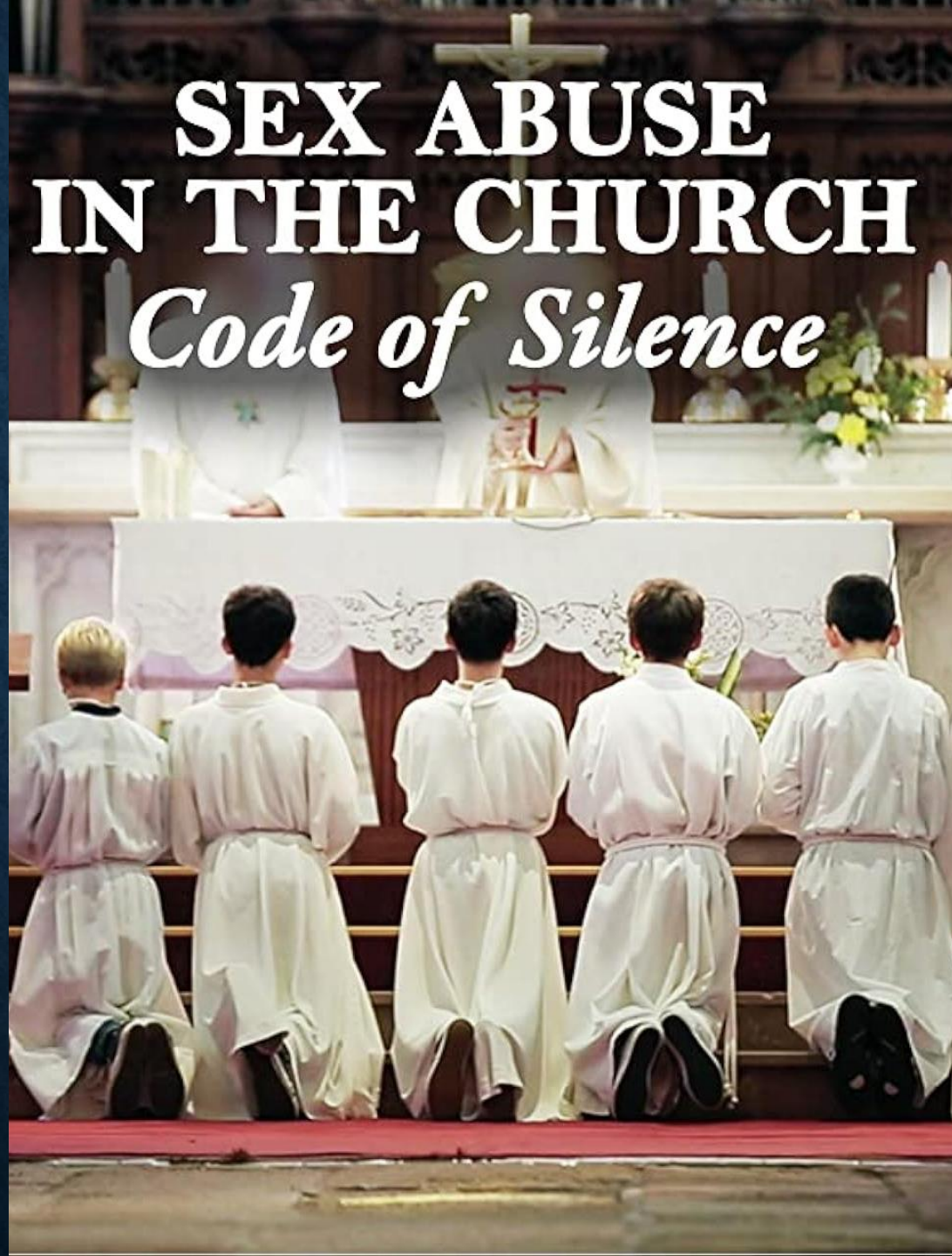
# CHASTITY IDEAL



Original sin transmitted though sex

# SEX ABUSE IN THE CHURCH

*Code of Silence*



# SEX FOR PROCREATION ONLY





# ABSTINENCE FROM SEX

- Thurs --- honor of His Arrest
- Friday ... crucifixion
- Saturday .....virgin Mary
- Sunday .....rurrection
- Monday.....souls of departed



# SACHI AND TOMIO HIDAKA

- Shy Japanese couple, Sachi and Tomio Hidaka, waited 14 years to consummate marriage,

# SACHI AND TOMIO HIDAKA



They could barely make eye contact when fully clothed. Much in love, but more in regard to spirituality and mutual respect. She wrote in diary, "Tomio and I are very much afraid but it's now or never. Tonight is the night."  
(Chiba, Japan)



**BOTH HAD HEART  
ATTACKS IN DOING IT.**



**SEXUAL REVOLUTION**  
**1960'S-80'S**

The hook up  
Booty call

**SEXUAL REVOLUTION**



Tinder



## SEX AS A RIGHT

*How does someone with special needs fulfil their inalienable right to the pursuit of life, liberty and human sexual contact?*

Kate Lette Canberra Times



A photograph of a woman in a red dress sitting on a metal pole at night. She is holding a cigarette in her right hand. The background is a blurred city street at night with warm lights.

# PROSTITUTE

*"sex care provider who is presenting herself as a commodity allotment within a business doctrine".*

Kate Lette Canberra Times

## THE CONTEXT IS CHRISTIAN LIBERTY

1 Corinthians 6:12 (ESV) All things are lawful for me,”  
but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for  
me,” but I will not be dominated by anything.

# CORINTHIAN POSITION

1 Corinthians 6:13 (ESV) Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food

Greek view

Hebrew view



emotional  
involvement  
commitment,  
meaning,

context,  
consequence  
human  
connection

Want the joy but not the commitment

**Pure Sex**



# **PARADOX OF SEXUAL FREEDOM**

- “I wish I weren’t so horny, so I didn’t need to go out and get it so much. I wish I could take a pill to kill my desire,”

**Leslie C. Bell Ph.D., LCSW**  
**Psychology Today**



## ST AUGUSTINE

*“I was bound down by this disease of the flesh. Its deadly pleasures were a chain that I dragged along with me, yet I was afraid to be freed from it”.*

# PARADOX OF SEXUAL FREEDOM

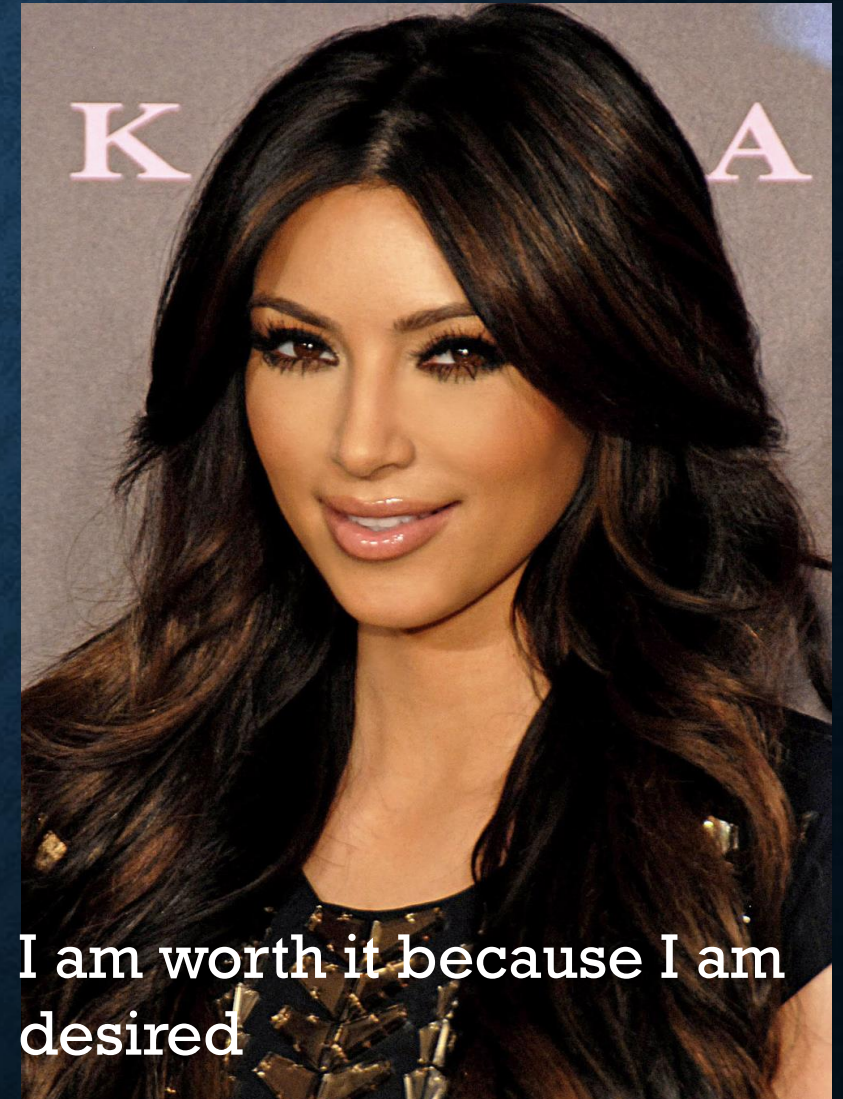
- Desensitizing Pornography
- Weird sex
- Loneliness 26% women on some antidepressant
- STD,
- Abortions
- Fatherless children ..US blacks 70%
- Declining marriage

# SEXUAL PARADOX

Sex life based on confidence or insecurity?



I am desired  
because I am  
worth it



I am worth it because I am  
desired



# SEXUAL PARADOX



Objectify  
Self worth  
Validation





## RACHEL LU

*The Sexual Revolution turned itself into a twisted mirror image of the very Puritanism it was supposedly defying*



## RACHEL LU

“For sex to stay sexy, it has to mean something. There needs to be some objective significance that extends beyond the horny-adolescent feelings.”

Can't have the joy without the  
commitment  
Hence sexual immorality is the total  
betrayal of this

# 1. THE ETERNAL SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR BODIES

## 1 Corinthians 6:13

Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food” —and God will destroy both one and the other.

## 1 Corinthians 6:13-14

The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power.

# STEP PARALELLISM

## 1 Corinthians 6:13

- Food is meant for the stomach and
- the stomach for food”  
—and
- God will destroy both one (stomach)
- and the other (food).

Stoic idea –body dies and soul immortal



## 1 Corinthians 6:13-14

- The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord,
- and the Lord for the body.
- 14 And God raised the Lord
- and will also raise us up by his power.

Don't damage the body with immorality because it goes with you beyond life

# PAUL'S ARGUMENT

The sexual union in marriage is to display the spiritual union and love that we enjoy with Christ.

Will be destroyed  
Transient

Will be raised  
Permanent

## 2 OUR BODIES ALREADY BONDED TO CHRIST'S

- 1 Corinthians 6:15 (ESV) Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never!



Wrenching or tear away by force

Shall I then take  
the members of  
Christ and  
make them  
members of a  
prostitute





**Hideous monstrosity**

### 3 SEX IS A MORE THAN SKIN DEEP

1 Corinthians 6:16-17 (ESV) Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” 17 But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

Unitive act whereby one gives himself or herself to another wholly..establish kinship

Tool for total  
commitment..send signal  
to the other



Physical  
expression of the  
marriage  
covenant..renewal



# SEX

- Reflects communion with God.. The exclusivity heightens the pleasure
- Echo of the future consummation of our relationship with God
- In OT God is husband
- God puts Himself in us fruit is produced  
...Fruit of Spirit



## The value of sex

- Cannot bring your cup of coffee in the room
- Cannot touch the portrait
- Cannot spit on it
- Cannot incur exposure to harsh light
- Cannot be exposed to damp conditions
- Temperature must be perfect

# LUST

- Goal is self fulfilment
- Object is anyone who can fulfil
- Use the person
- If the person no longer fulfils need cut him off
- Devalues the person

# LOVE

- Goal is love for a person
- Partner to build relationship
- Serve the person
- If the person no longer fulfils remain committed
- Values the person

# HOW DOES ONE BECOME ONE FLESH WITH PROSTITUTE?



Distortion of the true one flesh act





# PRETTY WOMAN



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## IMPLICATIONS OF THIS VIEW OF SEX

1 Corinthians 6:17-18 (ESV) But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. 18 Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

# NO TRUE ONENESS

Deviant sexual behaviour : Incest, Rape Sex with animals

Adultery



Prostitution



Homosexuality



# SEXUAL SIN

Intimacy without intention,

Communion without commitment.'

## **SINS AGAINST THE BODY**

Disrupts the bodies most powerful and intimate way of communication in relationships (self donation) for personal transformation

# KOREAN COMFORT WOMEN





**“I was still so young,  
within two months my  
body was completely  
destroyed,” she said.**

**“I was nothing but a  
toy, as a human being  
I meant nothing, that's  
how it felt during the  
Japanese era.”**



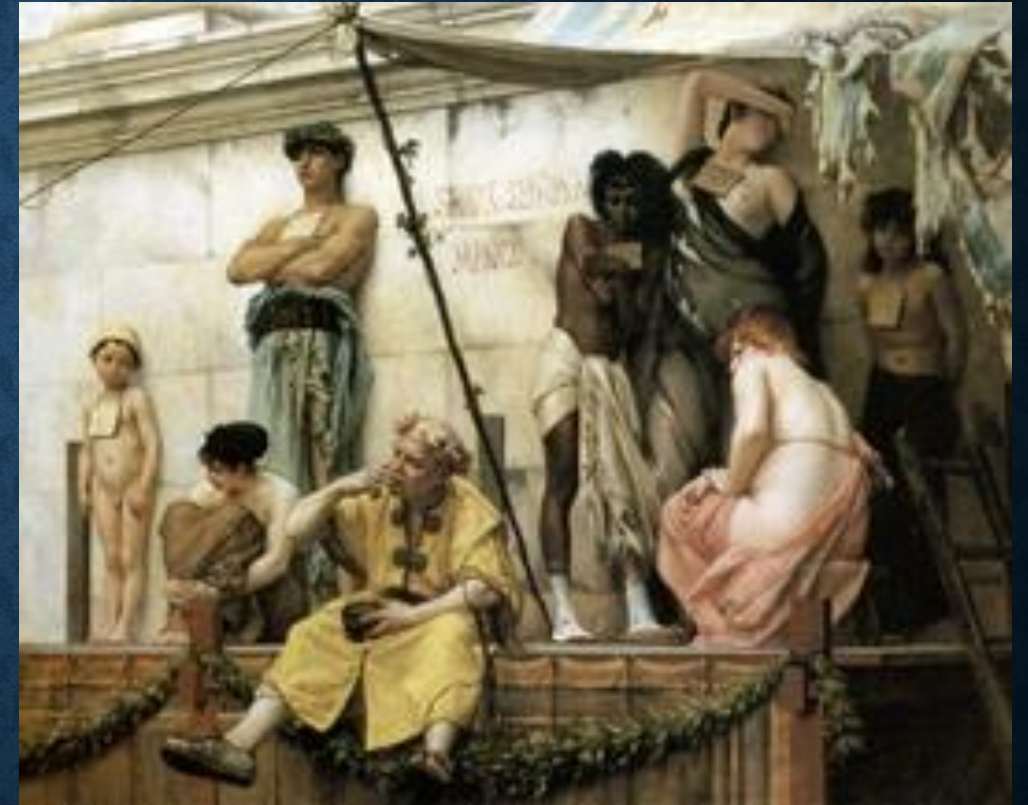
## DAMAGES THE BODY IN ITS CAPACITY AS THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

# PICTURES



Higher purpose  
Anticipates resurrection body



Liberated at great cost