

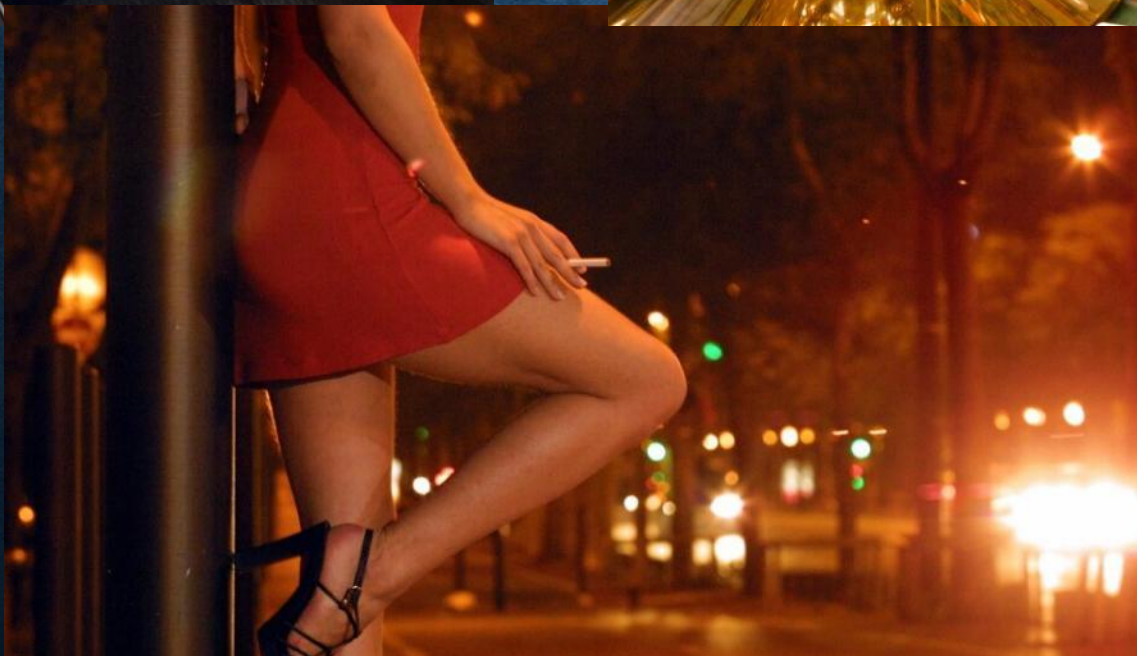


LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: CRUCIFYING THE FLESH
GAL 5:19-21

CHRIST HAS SET US FREE

Gal 5:1 It is for **freedom that Christ has set us free**. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Gal 5:13 You, my brothers and sisters, **were called to be free**. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.



HOW MANY OF US ARE VERY HAPPY WITH LIFE?

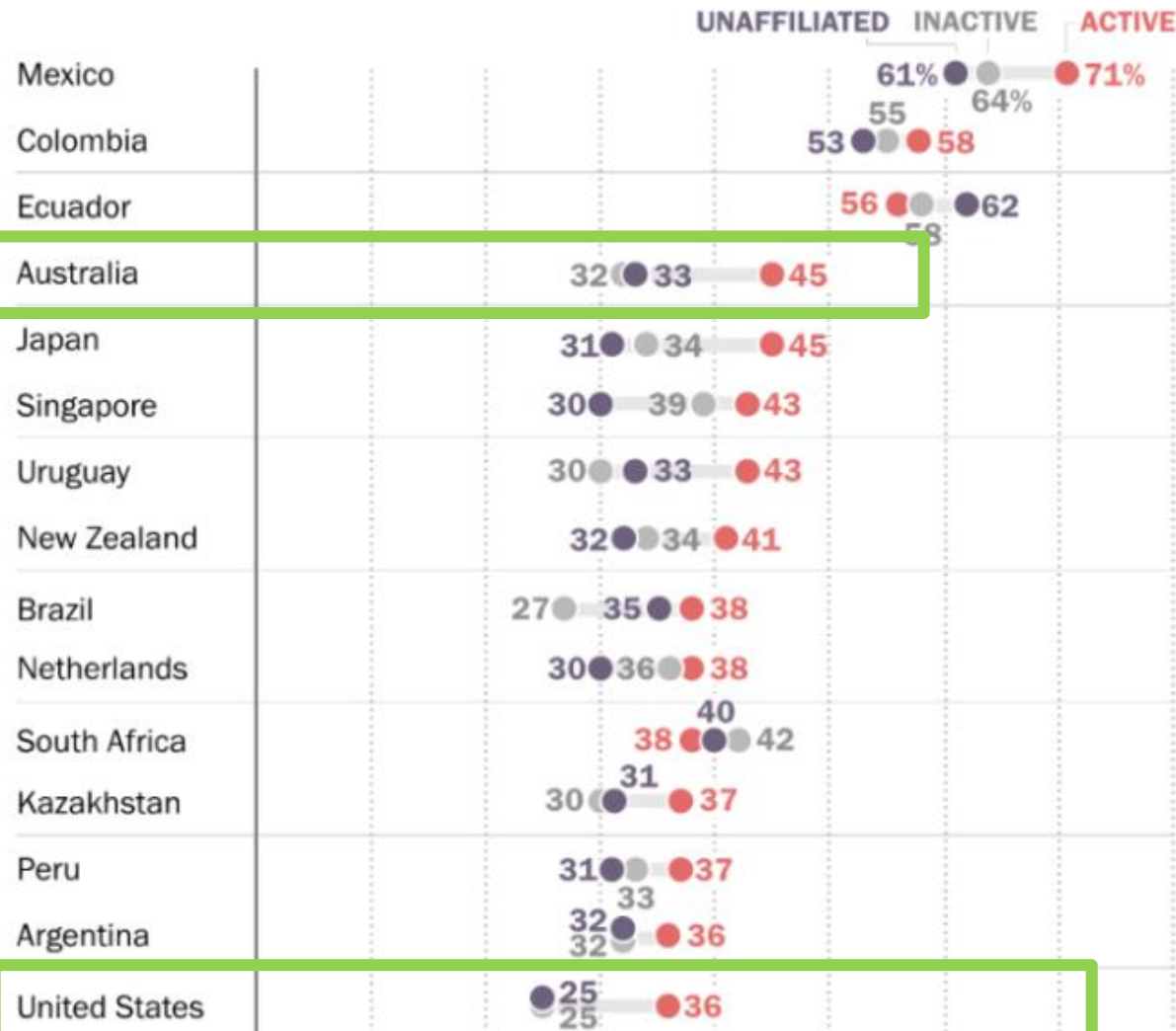


CHRISTIAN HAPPIEST AMONG EVERYONE?

- “**Christians**, with all denominations grouped together, reported an average mean of life satisfaction at **7.60**. This was the highest mean in the table, **alongside Hindus**, who also posted the same number. The groups with the **lowest average score were the non-religious at 7.41**, and the **"any other religion" group, at 7.31.**”
- -Britain's national happiness index

Actively religious people tend to be happier

% who say they are "very happy," among those who are religiously ...



Do we really feel free?
Do we feel our freedom is restricted?

Walk by the Spirit

Read the bible
No bribery
No smoking
No getting drunk
Serve at church
Work hard
No pornography
No gossiping
Give offering

Gratify the flesh

Do whatever you want
You are the boss



WHICH ONE DO WE RESEMBLE MORE?

Gal 5:19 **The acts of the flesh are obvious:** sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 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.

WHAT A WRETCHED MAN I AM!

Romans 7:18... For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 19 For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

7:21 So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 23 but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. 24 What a wretched man I am!

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT:
CRUCIFYING THE FLESH
GAL 5:19-21**



- The fight against slavery is real

LET'S PRAY



CHRISTIAN LIFE IS JOYLESS BECAUSE WE FEED THE BLACK DOG



Love
Joy
Peace
Forbearance
Kindness
Goodness
Faithfulness
Gentleness
Self-control

Sexual immorality
Impurity
Debauchery
Idolatry
Witchcraft
Hatred
Discord
Jealousy
Fits of rage
Selfish ambition
Dissensions
Factions
Envy
Drunkenness
Orgies
and the like

4 Categories of the Works of the Flesh

Sexual Pleasure

- Sexual immorality
- Impurity
- Debauchery

Religious

- Idolatry
- Witchcraft

Community

- Hatred
- Discord
- Jealousy
- Fits of rage
- Selfish ambition
- Dissensions
- Factions
- Envy

Substance Abuse

- Drunkenness
- Orgies
- And the like (non exhaustive list)

SEXUAL IMMORALITY



COMMON

CHRISTIAN

IMPURITY



COMMON



CHRISTIAN

IDOLATRY

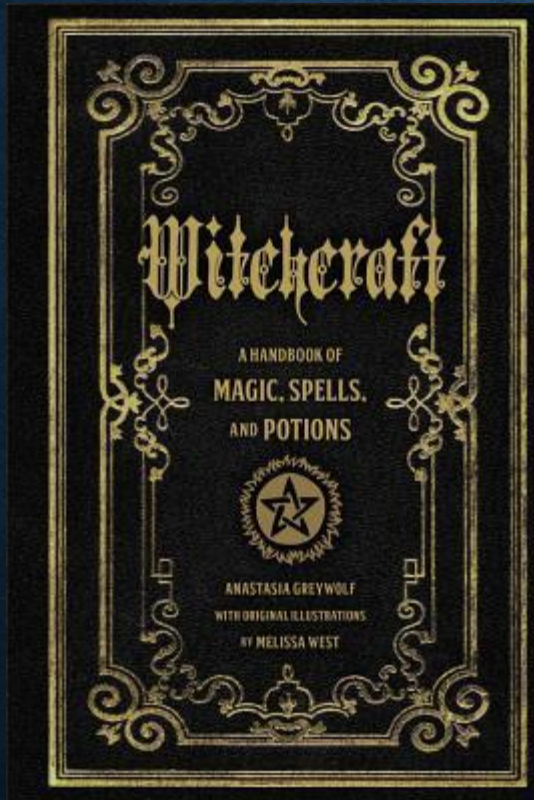


COMMON



CHRISTIAN

WITCHCRAFT



COMMON



CHRISTIAN

HATRED



COMMON



CHRISTIAN

SELFISH AMBITION



COMMON



CHRISTIAN

SUBSTANCE ABUSE / ADDICTION



COMMON



CHRISTIAN

EVIL DESIRE LEADS TO DEATH

- James 1:14 ... each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. 15 Then, **after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.**

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Girl starved to death while parents raised virtual child in online game

Korean couple became obsessed with raising virtual baby while their real infant daughter lay abandoned and unfed

South Korean police have arrested a couple for starving their three-month-old daughter to death while they devoted hours to playing a computer game that involved raising a virtual character of a young girl.

Mark Tran

Fri 5 Mar 2010 17.03 GMT

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**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT:
CRUCIFYING THE FLESH
GAL 5:19-21**

- The fight against slavery is real
- You can't be free if you love your chains

WHY DO SOME ALLOW THE FLESH TO REIGN?

Gal 5:19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, **that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

The opposite of love

22 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.

WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN?



- Self centredness (Incurvatus in se)
- We become the main reference point
- We refuse to trust God

WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN?

Fruit

Sexual immorality, impurity,
sensuality, idolatry, sorcery,
enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of
anger, rivalries, dissensions,
divisions, envy, drunkenness,
orgies



Desires of the Flesh

Self centredness (incurvatus in se) leading to Epithumeia

CASE STUDY – WHAT IS THE RIGHT RESPONSE?



Rightly ordered loves

1. God
2. Caring for others
3. Being a good testimony
4. Teaching values
5. Coaching football
6. Winning

Disordered loves

1. Winning
2. Coaching football
3. Caring for others
4. ~~Being a good testimony~~
5. ~~Teaching Values~~
6. ~~God~~

SIN MAKES GOOD THINGS INTO ULTIMATE THINGS

Intimacy

Wholeness

Joyful celebration and rest

Worship God

God's guidance

Justice

Peace-making

Desiring career growth

Righteous anger

Stewardship and calling

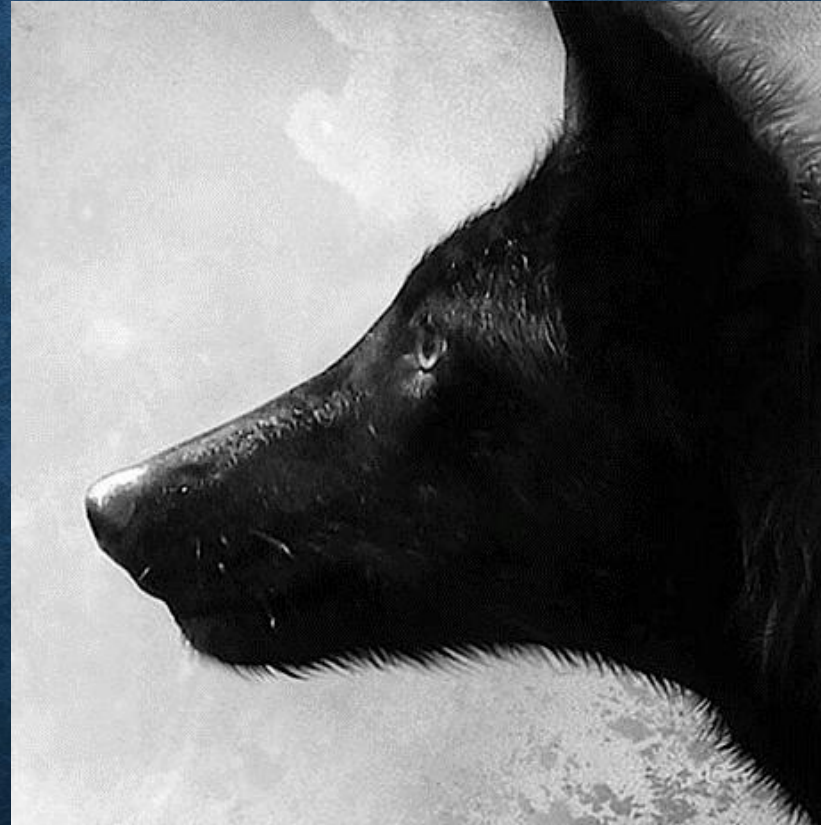
Dialogue

Diversity in unity

Celebrating achievements

Enjoyment of creation

Feasting and fellowship



Sexual immorality

Impurity

Debauchery

Idolatry

Witchcraft

Hatred

Discord

Jealousy

Fits of rage

Selfish ambition

Dissensions

Factions

Envy

Drunkenness

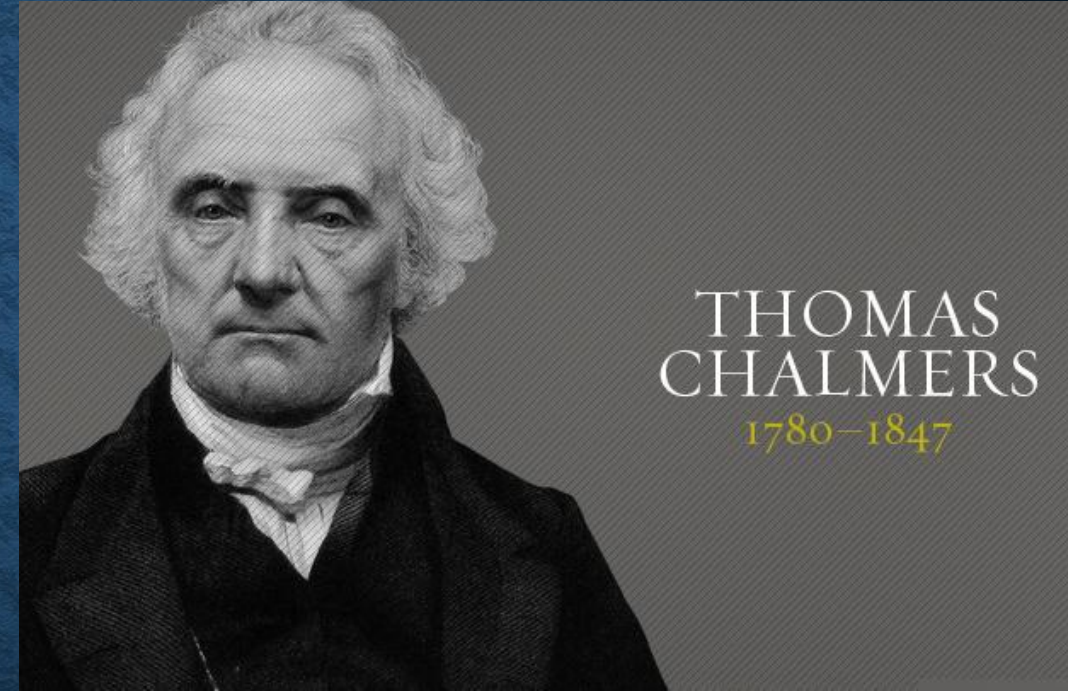
Orgies

HOW CAN WE BE SAVED?

“The love of God and the love of the world, are two affections, not merely in a state of rivalry, but **in a state of enmity**

We have already affirmed **how impossible it were for the heart**, by any innate elasticity of its own, to cast the world away from it, and thus **reduce itself to a wilderness.**”

“The heart is not so constituted, and **the only way to dispossess it of an old affection is by the expulsive power of a new one.**”



YOU CAN'T EXTINGUISH THESE DESIRES THROUGH WILLPOWER



YOU NEED A MUCH STRONGER DESIRE

- 22 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.**



WHY WAS RONALDO CRYING?



Cristiano Ronaldo playing in what is expected to be his final FIFA World Cup tournament, left the field in tears after Portugal's shock exit following their 1-0 defeat to Morocco in the quarter-finals at the Al Thumama Stadium, Qatar on Saturday, December 10.

WHY IS JAZIEL SO HAPPY?



- Rightly ordered loves
1. Daddy mummy
 2. Family
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
 - 6.
 7. Playing with friends
 8. McDonald's
 9. Football
 10. Winning



“It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”

~C. S. LEWIS

Rightly ordered loves

1. God
2. Family
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
10. Winning

WE NEED A MUCH STRONGER DESIRE

Gal2:20 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.**





LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: CRUCIFYING THE FLESH GAL 5:19-21

- The fight against slavery is real
- You can't be free if you love your chains
- Freedom begins when you remember you are loved

BENEDICTION GAL 2:20

"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."

Go forth, living by faith, in the power of Christ who dwells in you. Amen.