



THE PROBLEM OF SIN WITHIN THE CHURCH – PART 3
I CORN. 6:12-20; EX. 20:17; 1JOHN 1: 5-10 (NLT)

The PROBLEM

1 Corinthians 6:12-14 (NLT)

¹² You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. And even though “I am allowed to do anything,” I must not become a slave to anything. ¹³ You say, “Food was made for the stomach, and the stomach for food.” (This is true, though someday God will do away with both of them.) But you can’t say that our bodies were made for sexual immorality. They were made for the Lord, and the Lord cares about our bodies. ¹⁴ And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead.



THE PROBLEM

1 Corinthians 6:15-17 (NLT)

¹⁵ Don't you realize that your bodies are actually parts of Christ? Should a man take his body, which is part of Christ, and join it to a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶ And don't you realize that if a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her? For the Scriptures say, "The two are united into one." ¹⁷ But the person who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.



The PROBLEM

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 (NLT)

- 18 Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body.
- 19 Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself,
- 20 for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.



THE PRINCIPLE

Exodus 20:17 (NLT)

17 “You must not **covet** your neighbor’s house. You must not covet your neighbor’s wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.”



"This commandment is a staunch prohibition against all lustful desire" (Davis, *Moses and the Gods*, 220). A person cannot be said to live by these words if he or she keeps them only in an external way. These commandments must be kept in one's heart as well as in one's actions. Jesus taught this when He taught that hate was in effect murder, and lust was in effect adultery (see the comments on Mt 5:21-30). The corruption of sin is in the heart before it is in the actions.

"Covetousness has a psychologically degrading effect upon an individual" (Davis, *Moses and the Gods*, 220). It takes away contentment (cf. Php 4:11-12; 1Tm 6:6-8) and rivets one's attention on acquiring earthly and temporal toys rather than the heavenly and eternal treasures (cf. Mt 6:20, 33).

The Moody Bible Commentary.



THE PRESCRIPTION

1 John 1:5-7 (NLT)

- ⁵ This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all.
- ⁶ So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth.
- ⁷ But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.



THE PRESCRIPTION

1 John 1:8-10 (NLT)

- ⁸ If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth.
- ⁹ But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.
- ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.



“THE PROBLEM IS TOO MANY PEOPLE
A SAVIOR BUT DON’T WANT A LORD.”

TONY EVANS

