

Ancient Foolishness Part 2

Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Ephesians.
- B. Paul is trying to relate how to live the Christian life in a blind society.
- C. Human nature has not changed in twenty centuries.
- D. It is not surprising therefore that we face a problem with sexual morality.
- E. We are faced with an ever-increasing problem in this direction.

II. Three more reasons why sexual looseness is incompatible with the Christian faith.

- A. No one who has greed for another's body has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.
 - 1. Sexual looseness is incompatible with the Christian faith because it reveals an unregenerate heart.
 - 2. This does not mean that that kind of person cannot come into an inheritance.
- B. The Christian is expected to act differently because there are things he knows or should know.
 - 1. He should know that sexual misconduct will be the subject of subtle but deceitful propaganda.
 - 2. These things in particular reveal the present wrath of God, which is the animalizing of humanity—an exchange of manliness for womanliness. (Romans 1)
 - a. What we think is private is not private at all.
 - b. An infestation of sexual immorality spreads throughout society.
 - c. This is why there should be restraint on society.
 - 3. The essential choice is discerning what is pleasing to the Lord and not man.
- C. The Christian is directed to expose the true character of sexual evil.
 - 1. This does not mean going about denouncing.
 - 2. This means proclaiming the truth about these matters.
 - 3. Christians are called to rebel against the masquerade of truth. (Romans 12)

4. Do all things without grumbling and complaining in the midst of a perverse and wicked generation. (Philippians 2:14)

Application questions:

1. How does sexual looseness unveil an unregenerate heart?

2. How does sexual looseness animalize a person? Explain.

3. How should the Christian communicate the value of sexual purity, and why is this important?
