

# Zion Presbyterian Church

Macon GA  
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## **The Foolishness of Adultery**

The Bible is clear that adultery is foolish and leads to death. It's rampant in our culture, entertainment, and even our churches. One opinion poll after another shows our society thinks adultery is bad, so how does it get so wide spread? Can you say right now that you know how to guard yourself against it?

Fortunately the Bible tells us where it starts, how it grows, and what its end result is. This morning's sermon will look at the root of adultery and point out many scriptures that will help you guard your heart from the foolishness of adultery.

Please remember to download the PDF companion file with this sermon. In it you will find scripture passages from the sermon, additional notes and questions or thoughts to consider in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

During the sermon consider the following questions;

- Where is the root of adultery in a person?
- Who are the victims of adultery?
- What does God say the consequences of adultery are?
- Is adultery just a physical sin? Is there a difference between thinking it and doing it?
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- What forms of adultery are there and what are their elements?
- Can a single person commit adultery?
- Can I commit adultery in my relationship to the Lord?

## **Scripture References**

**1 Thessalonians 4:1-10** Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that, as you received from us *instruction* as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you may excel still more. (2) For you know what commandments we gave you by *the authority* of the Lord Jesus. (3) For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality; (4) that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, (5) not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; (6) *and* that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is *the* avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned *you*. (7) For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification. (8) Consequently, he who rejects *this* is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you. (9) Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for *anyone* to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; (10) for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more,

**Proverbs 5:1-23** My son, give attention to my wisdom, Incline your ear to my understanding; (2) That you may observe discretion, And your lips may reserve knowledge. (3) For the lips of an adulteress drip honey, And smoother than oil is her speech; (4) But in the end she is bitter as wormwood, Sharp as a two-edged sword. (5) Her feet go down to death, Her steps lay hold of Sheol. (6) She does not ponder the path of life; Her ways are unstable, she does not know *it*. (7) Now then, *my* sons, listen to me, And do not depart from the words of my mouth. (8) Keep your way far from her, And do not go near the door of her house, (9) Lest you give your vigor to others, And your years to the cruel one; (10) Lest strangers be filled with your strength, And your hard-earned goods *go* to the house of an alien; (11) And you groan at your latter end, When your flesh and your body are consumed; (12) And you say, "How I have hated instruction! And my heart spurned reproof! (13) "And I have not listened to the voice of my teachers, Nor inclined my ear to my instructors! (14) "I was almost in utter ruin In the midst of the assembly and congregation." (15) Drink water from your own cistern, And fresh water from your own well. (16) Should your springs be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets? (17) Let them be yours alone, And not for strangers with you. (18) Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice in the wife of your youth. (19) *As* a loving hind and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; Be exhilarated always with her love. (20) For why should you, my son, be exhilarated with an adulteress, And embrace the bosom of a foreigner? (21) For the ways of a man are before the eyes of the LORD, And He watches all his paths. (22) His own iniquities will capture the wicked, And he will be held with the cords of his sin. (23) He will die for lack of instruction, And in the greatness of his folly he will go astray.

**1 John 2:15-17** Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (16) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. (17) And the world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God abides forever.

**1 John 5:21** Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

**Ephesians 2:1-3** And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, (2) in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. (3) Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

**Ephesians 4:17-24** This I say therefore, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, (18) being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; (19) and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality, for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. (20) But you did not learn Christ in this way, (21) if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, (22) that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, (23) and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, (24) and put on the new self, which in *the likeness* of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

**1 Thessalonians 4:3-6** For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality; (4) that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, (5) not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; (6) *and* that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is *the* avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned *you*.

**Proverbs 2:14-22** Who delight in doing evil, And rejoice in the perversity of evil; (15) Whose paths are crooked, And who are devious in their ways; (16) To deliver you from the strange woman, From the adulteress who flatters with her words; (17) That leaves the companion of her youth, And forgets the covenant of her God; (18) For her house sinks down to death, And her tracks *lead* to the dead; (19) None who go to her return again, Nor do they reach the paths of life. (20) So you will walk in the way of good men, And keep to the paths of the righteous. (21) For the upright will live in the land, And the blameless will remain in it; (22) But the wicked will be cut off from the land, And the treacherous will be uprooted from it.

**Proverbs 6:24-28** To keep you from the evil woman, From the smooth tongue of the adulteress. (25) Do not desire her beauty in your heart, Nor let her catch you with her eyelids. (26) For on account of a harlot *one is reduced* to a loaf of bread, And an adulteress hunts for the precious life. (27) Can a man take fire in his bosom, And his clothes not be burned? (28) Or can a man walk on hot coals, And his feet not be scorched?

**Proverbs 7:5-27** That they may keep you from an adulteress, From the foreigner who flatters with her words. (6) For at the window of my house I looked out through my lattice, (7) And I saw among the naive, I discerned among the youths, A young man lacking sense, (8) Passing through the street near her corner; And he takes the way to her house, (9) In the twilight, in the evening, In the middle of the night and *in* the darkness. (10) And behold, a woman *comes* to meet him, Dressed as a harlot and cunning of heart. (11) She is boisterous and rebellious; Her feet do not remain at home; (12) *She is* now in the streets, now in the squares, And lurks by every corner. (13) So she seizes him and kisses him, And with a brazen face she says to him: (14) "I was due to offer peace offerings; Today I have paid my vows. (15) "Therefore I have come out to meet you, To seek your presence earnestly, and I have found you. (16) "I have spread my couch with coverings, With colored linens of Egypt. (17) "I have sprinkled my bed With myrrh, aloes and cinnamon. (18) "Come, let us drink our fill of love until morning; Let us delight ourselves with caresses. (19) "For the man is not at home, He has gone on a long journey; (20) He has taken a bag of money with him, At full moon he will come home." (21) With her many persuasions she entices him; With her flattering lips she seduces him. (22) Suddenly he follows her, As an ox goes to the slaughter, Or as *one in* fetters to the discipline of a fool, (23) Until an arrow pierces through his liver; As a bird hastens to the snare, So he does not know that it *will cost him* his life. (24) Now therefore, *my* sons, listen to me, And pay attention to the words of my mouth. (25) Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways, Do not stray into her paths. (26) For many are the victims she has cast down, And numerous are all her slain. (27) Her house is the way to Sheol, Descending to the chambers of death.

**Hosea 1:1-11** The word of the LORD which came to Hosea the son of Beeri, during the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, *and* Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel. (2) When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, take to yourself a wife of harlotry, and *have* children of harlotry; for the land commits flagrant harlotry, forsaking the LORD." (3) So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. (4) And the LORD said to him, "Name him Jezreel; for yet a little while, and I will punish the house of Jehu for the bloodshed of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. (5) "And it will come about on that day, that I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel." (6) Then she conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. And the LORD said to him, "Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have compassion on the house of Israel, that I should ever forgive them. (7) "But I will have compassion on the house of Judah and deliver them by the LORD

their God, and will not deliver them by bow, sword, battle, horses, or horsemen." (8) When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and gave birth to a son. (9) And the LORD said, "Name him Lommi, for you are not My people and I am not your God." (10) Yet the number of the sons of Israel Will be like the sand of the sea, Which cannot be measured or numbered; And it will come about that, in the place Where it is said to them, "You are not My people," It will be said to them, "*You are* the sons of the living God." (11) And the sons of Judah and the sons of Israel will be gathered together, And they will appoint for themselves one leader, And they will go up from the land, For great will be the day of Jezreel.