

Purity of Christian Living

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Introduction

1. There are many challenges to the Christian to be faithful to the Lord.
2. Satan is a roaring lion (1 Pet. 5:8) who would like to destroy us!

I. Sources of Pressure

- A. Within the church, immorality can happen! It did in the Corinthian church (1 Cor. 5:1-2).
- B. In our community, there are things that disturb us—just as Lot was vexed by the filthy behavior of his fellow citizens (Gen. 19; 2 Pet. 2:8).
- C. Within religious circles, there are denominational churches approving of same-sex marriage.
- D. In the world:
 1. Like the time of Noah, it seems today that “every imagination was evil continually” (Gen. 6:5).
 2. Like the time of the Apostle John, it seems today that the whole world is evil (1 John 5:19).

II. Types of Pressure

- A. Pressure in the workplace
 1. Government and businesses are all about “diversity,” which sometimes means the acceptance of sinful lifestyles, calling evil “good” (Isa. 5:20).
- B. Criticism from peers
 1. “They think that it is strange” (1 Pet. 4:4).
- C. Financial Pressure
 1. By sharing expenses, “two can live as cheaply as one.”
- D. Pressure in Schools
- E. Pressure in Society

III. Areas of Concern

- A. The Christians at Corinth had quite a past: “And such were some of you” (1 Cor. 6:8-11).
- B. Sinful acts are the result of giving in to sin and they are obvious (Gal. 5:19-21).

IV. We Need to Remember Some Important Ideas About Using the Internet—A Source of Great Temptation

- A. Nothing is hidden from God (Prov. 15:3; Heb. 4:13).
- B. Nothing remains secret (Matt. 10:26) because secret things will be revealed in the judgment.
- C. Another reason to stay pure is that our secret sins are often exposed.
- D. It’s NOT okay to look at bad things (Matt. 5:27-28).

V. Christian Living Is Exhibited in:

- A. Our clothing
 1. It should be “modest apparel” (1 Tim. 2:9).
- B. Our speech
 1. It should be positive and uplifting rather than corrupt and dirty (Eph. 4:29).
- C. Our behavior
 1. Immorality doesn’t fit the Christian lifestyle (Eph. 5:3).

VI. Success Stories

- A. Singles ministry in D.C. teaches strongly against fornication.
- B. They believe in marriage (1 Cor. 7:1-2).

VII. Our Resolve

- A. Put nothing wicked before my eyes (Psa. 101:3).

- B. Flee fornication (1 Cor. 6:18).
- C. Flee youthful lusts (2 Tim. 2:22).
- D. Follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace (1 Tim. 2:22).
- E. Present your bodies a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1-2).
- F. Glorify God in your body and spirit (1 Cor. 6:19-20).
- G. Find the "way of escape" to bear temptation (1 Cor. 10:13).

Conclusion

1. Although Satan is strong, Christ is stronger (1 John 4:4).
2. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins (1 John 1:7).