

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. From <https://www.cgg.org>
- B. For all that is in the world - All that it can boast of, all that it can promise, is only sensual, transient gratification, and even this promise it cannot fulfill; so that its warmest votaries (monk or nun) can complain loudest of their disappointment (*AClarke*).
- C. Sensual and impure desires which seek their gratification in women, strong drink, delicious viands (foods), and the like (*AClarke*). Wrong desires of the heart, the appetite of indulging all things that excite and inflame sensual pleasures (*MHenry*).
- D. **1John 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** The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.
  - 1. Our focus from the above text is the lust of the flesh.

## OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES.

- A. **Genesis 3:6.**  
When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make *one* wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.
  - 1. It was good for food. Food satisfies temporarily, and the hunger returns. It is shallow and unsatisfying pleasure.
  - 2. See Mt. 6:25; Mk. 7:19; Jn. 6:27; Rom. 14:15,20; 1Cor. 6:13; 8:13; Heb. 13:9.
- B. **Proverbs 23:20-21.**  
Do not be with heavy drinkers of wine,  
Or with gluttonous eaters of meat;  
**21** For the heavy drinker and the glutton will come to poverty,  
And drowsiness will clothe *one* with rags.
  - 1. There is no future in eating and drinking heavily. There is nothing to be gained.
  - 2. Paul told Timothy that there is some value in physical discipline (1Tim. 4:8).
- C. **Isaiah 56:11-12.**  
And the dogs are greedy, they are not satisfied.  
And they are shepherds who have no understanding;  
They have all turned to their own way,  
Each one to his unjust gain, to the last one.  
**12** "Come," *they say*, "let us get wine, and let us drink heavily of strong drink;  
And tomorrow will be like today, only more so."
  - 1. The greedy are never satisfied. Greed for food and drink leads to ignorance and a lack of understanding.
  - 2. Tomorrow will NOT be like today; the greed will grow worse and become uncontrollable.
- D. **Exodus 20:17**  
"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor."
  - 1. Sexual, or sensuous pleasures can be traced to covetousness.
  - 2. See Jer. 5:8; Ezek. 33:26.

E. **Exodus 20:14.**

“You shall not commit adultery.

1. The 7th commandment.
2. This commandments is repeated several times in the NT.

F. **2Samuel 11:2-4.**

Now when evening came David arose from his bed and walked around on the roof of the king’s house, and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful in appearance. **3** So David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, “Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?” **4** David sent messengers and took her, and when she came to him, he lay with her; and when she had purified herself from her uncleanness, she returned to her house.

1. A passage that we have already studied.

G. **Proverbs 7:6-27.**

For at the window of my house  
I looked out through my lattice,  
**7** And I saw among the naive,  
And 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 my husband is not at home,  
He has gone on a long journey;  
**20** He has taken a bag of money with him,  
At the 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.

1. This text is the personification of worldly wisdom but is also a graphic reading of illicit sexual pleasure.
2. See Prov. 6:32.

H. **Proverbs 16:25.**

There is a way *which seems* right to a man,  
But its end is the way of death.

1. Giving in to the temptation of the lust of the flesh is taking a God-given drive or blessings and satisfying it in an unlawful way.
2. 'Death' in this verse means spiritual and eternal death.

## NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES

A. **Matthew 5:27-30.**

"You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY'; **28** but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. **29** If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. **30** If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell.

1. A passage we have already studied.
2. Taking care of your body and saying no to the lusts of the flesh is a must.

B. **Mark 7:20-23.**

And He was saying, "That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. **21** For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, **22** deeds of coveting *and* wickedness, *as well as* deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride *and* foolishness. **23** All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man."

1. A passage we have already studied.
2. Several lusts of the flesh are listed in this text.

C. **Luke 12:15.**

Then He said to them, "Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not *even* when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions."

1. Greed is condemned in both the OT and NT.
2. A passage we have already studied.

D. **Luke 21:34.**

"Be on guard, so that your hearts will not be weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that day will not come on you suddenly like a trap;

1. In Jesus' instructions about the destruction of Jerusalem, he warns that escape from the city will be made more difficult if one has squandered their money, energy, or resources (dissipation) or is drunk.
2. Physical destruction is in view here, but the analogy can be made to spiritual destruction.

**E. Romans 12:1-2.**

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

1. A passage we have already studied.
2. The key is to not be like the worldliness about us, but have a transformed mind that thinks differently from the world.

**F. Romans 13:13-14.**

Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. **14** But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.

1. Simple and straightforward admonition. Life is being like Christ, not the satisfying of the flesh.

**G. 1Corinthians 6:9-10.**

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, **10** nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

1. A list of activities that will be not be rewarded with eternal life in the heavenly kingdom of God.

**H. Galatians 5:19-21.**

Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, **20** idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, **21** envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

1. Another list of sins, some the fulfillment of the lust of the flesh that will not be rewarded with eternal life in the heavenly kingdom of God.
2. It is the list that follows; Gal. 5:22-23 (the fruit of the Spirit) that is to be pursued.

**I. 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.

1. Paul specifically mentions the “lust of flesh” and condemns to the practices by saying that those who do such things are objects of the wrath of God.
2. Be sure you can say that you have “formerly lived in” them.

**J. Ephesians 4:19-22.**

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,

1. Giving in to the lust of flesh results in one becoming callous to the truth. Such proplonged behavior means a complete surrender to the things of sensuality, impurity, and greed. A very sad commentary on a person's life.
2. Paul encourages us to remember that such a lifestyle has not been taught by Christ and that we are to lay aside the old self which is being corrupted by lust.

K. **Ephesians 5:3-5.**

But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; **4** and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. **5** For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

1. The lust of the flesh is so contagious that such activity is not to even be talked about by the saints. Stay away from filthiness and silly talk and coarse jesting. All of which are not fitting for the Christian.
2. The immoral and impure (lust of the flesh) will not inherit the kingdom of Christ and God.

L. **Colossians 3:5.**

Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

1. Simple and straightforward admonition.

M. **1Thessalonians 4:4-5.**

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;

1. Take care of your body physically and above all spiritually.
2. The physical body is not designed for lust to practiced or desired.

N. **1Timothy 6:6-9.**

But godliness *actually* is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. **7** For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. **8** If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. **9** But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.

1. We are to be content with the food and covering that God supplies. Anything beyond this amounts to greediness and covetousness.
2. Those who are not content and pursue these lusts of flesh will conclude with ruin and destruction.

O. **2Timothy 3:4-5.**

treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, **5** holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

1. A lover of pleasure is one who only holds to a form of godliness.
2. The power of godliness is seen in the holy, consecrated and sacrificial life.

P. **Titus 2:11-14.**

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, **12** instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, **13** looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, **14** who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

1. We are to do three things to be ready for the coming of Christ:
  - a. Live sensibly (no excesses, greed, or covetousness).
  - b. Live righteously (following the lead and laws of Christ).
  - c. Godly (the standard to live by comes not from the world but from God).

Q. **James 4:4.**

You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

1. Christians living like the world and friends with the world, and have become an enemy of God.

R. **James 4:1-2.**

What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? **2** You lust and do not have; *so* you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; *so* you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.

1. Lusting is a hindrance to our prayer life.
2. We have not because we ask amiss wanting to spend it on our pleasures.

**NEXT LESSON:**

Overcoming the temptations of the pride of life.