

Made for Monogamy

John 11 ³² Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. ³⁴ And He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ Then the Jews said, "See how He loved him!" ³⁷ And some of them said, "Could not this Man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸ Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. ⁴² And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." ⁴³ Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" ⁴⁴ And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."

*** The occasion.**

*** Two things** that grip Christians on such occasions are _____ and _____.

We should be the former, but not the latter, for such cultural descent and degradation are not only predictable, they are _____ whenever a nation turns away from God the way the US and Canada have.

*** God created** us for two types of monogamy: _____ and _____.

When a society abandons one, it won't be long before it abandons the other, for there is an imbedded creational _____ between spirituality and sexuality.

*** This is** why Paul, when describing the descent and self-destruction of fallen humanity, describes it as a spiritual-sexual _____-step.

Rom 1 ²¹ [A]lthough they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. ²⁴ Therefore God also gave

them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. ²⁸ And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;

*** Second only** to being a spiritual being made in God's image, man is a _____ being made male and female.

Gen 1 ²⁷ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

*** As God** joined Adam and Eve to himself spiritually, so he joined them to one another sexually in _____.

Gen 2 ⁷ And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. ... ²¹ And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept ... ²² Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. ... ²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. ²⁵ And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

1Co 6 ¹³ ... Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴ And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. ¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh." ¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. ¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

*** The "state** of nature" was not a state of random, amoral spirituality and sexuality, but of _____ in both. God refers to idolatry as spiritual _____.

Jer 3 ⁸ "Then I saw that for all the causes for which backsliding Israel had committed adultery, I had put her away and given her a certificate of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah did not

fear, but went and played the harlot also. ... ¹⁴ Return, O backsliding children," says the LORD; "for I am married to you."

Hosea 1 ² [T]he LORD said to Hosea: "Go, take yourself a wife of harlotry And children of harlotry, For the land has committed great harlotry By departing from the LORD." ... 2 ² "Bring charges against your mother, bring charges ... Let her put away her harlotries from her sight, And her adulteries from between her breasts ..."

Rev 11 ⁸ And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. ... 19 ¹ ... "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! ² For ... He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her."

* **God created** marriage to reflect the spiritual _____ between himself and humanity.

Eph 5 ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church ... ²⁴ Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her ... ³¹ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

* **Any society** that revels in the pursuit of whatever god, spirituality, or worship one may choose will inevitably revel in the pursuit of whatever _____ uality, _____ objects, and _____ acts one may choose. And that society will _____ against anyone that opposes the spiritual/sexual "free for all."

Gen 19 ⁴ Now ... the men of Sodom, both old and young, all the people from every quarter, surrounded the house. ⁵ And they called to Lot and said to him, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them carnally." ⁶ So Lot went out to them through the doorway, shut the door behind him, ⁷ and said, "Please, my brethren, do not do so wickedly! ... ⁹ And they said, "Stand back!" Then they said, "This one came in to stay here, and he keeps acting as a judge; now we will deal worse with you than with them."

Judges 19 ²² [S]uddenly certain men of the city, perverted men, surrounded the house and beat on the door ..., saying, "Bring out the man who came to your house, that we may know him carnally!" ²³ But the man, the master of the house, went out to them and said to them, "No, my brethren! I beg you, do not act so wickedly! ... ²⁵ But the men would not heed him. So the man took his concubine and brought her out to them. And they knew her and abused her all night until morning

* **This is** precisely what led to the _____ of early Christians in the Roman Empire.

"They ... meet on a fixed day before dawn and sing responsively a hymn to Christ as to a god, and b[un]d themselves to a solemn oath, not to [commit] any wicked deeds, [and] never to commit any fraud, theft, adultery, never to falsify their word, not to deny a trust when they should be called upon to deliver it up. When this was over, it was their custom to depart and to assemble again to partake of a meal [consisting of] ordinary and innocent food." (Pliny the Younger, Letters, X.xcvi.)

* **How could** the Christians have easily avoided persecution?

* **What were** the Christians called?

* **Why didn't** Christians take the easy way out?

* **In Jn 11.33 & 38**, what does mean that Jesus "groaned"?

* **Why is** Jesus "snorting with anger"?

* **What is** the basic meaning of death, and what kind of death has Jesus come to destroy?

* **How has** our modern thinking gone wrong on individual freedom, fulfillment, and flourishing?