

..

“... 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.”

1 John 2:16

MORAL DECAY IN AMERICA

Who defines morality?

- “the character of being in accord with the principles or standards of right conduct as opposed to conduct or actions that are wrong; rightness verses wrongness”
- Do we heed God our Creator or men?
 - God’s character (1 Peter 1:15; 1 John 3:3, 7; Psalm 7:11; 116:5)
 - Man’s character (John 3:19; James 3:15-16)

Who defines morality?

- *“... godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come” (1 Timothy 4:8)*
- *“... No one is good except God alone” (Luke 18:19)*
- *“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

Departure from the authority of Christ's word opens the way for the spread of immorality.

- Careful adherence to the commandments and doctrines of Christ are required (Matthew 7:21; 28:20; John 14:15; Colossians 3:17; James 1:25; Hebrews 5:9).
- False teaching in churches led to immorality (Revelation 2:14, 20; 3:3-4).

Departure from the authority of Christ's word opens the way for the spread of immorality.

- Lack of teaching against the misuse of God's names breeds irreverence.
- Lack of teaching against immodesty feeds the practice of sensuality.
- Lack of teaching against filling your mind with impure entertainment generates acceptance of sinful behavior.
- Lack of teaching against alcohol use encourages a decline in self-control.

Departure from the authority of Christ's word opens the way for the spread of immorality.

- Lack of teaching against the pollution of fornication multiplies illicit sexual behavior.
- Lack of teaching against divorces which God does not approve promotes on-going adultery.
- If God's laws regarding sanctification no longer matter, men and women will approve and practice what the Creator clearly states is unnatural and indecent - homosexuality.

God condemns sexual immorality.

- God created man for goodness, for holiness, for honor and for glory.
 - *“... the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body”* (1 Corinthians 6:13)
- Fornication is sin that can cause you to go to Hell (Revelation 21:8).
 - A work of the flesh to be abstained from (1 Thessalonians 4:3; Galatians 5:19, 21)

God condemns sexual immorality.

- Fornication is sin!
- Adulterers and adulteresses will not inherit the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Hebrews 13:4).
 - Unlawful intimacy and intercourse with another person who is not one's God-joined spouse
 - To marry an unlawfully divorced person according to God's word is to become guilty of practicing adultery (Matthew 19:9; Mark 10:11-12; Luke 16:18).

God condemns sexual immorality.

- Fornication is sin!
- Adultery is sin!
- Our promiscuous society has become fertile soil for men and women to exchange their natural function of their bodies for what is unnatural (Romans 1:21, 24-27; 1 Timothy 1:9-11).