

***Your Highest
Calling,***



Man of God

Amanda Buys' Spiritual Covering

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Your Highest Calling, Man of God

PART I HOLINESS

1 Pet 1:15,16: *"But as the One Who called you is **Holy**, you yourselves also be **holy** in all your conduct and manner of living. For it is written, You shall be **holy**, for I am **holy**."*

The word "Holy" means to be **separated** from the world **unto** God in **all** your conduct.

Three stages of Personal Holiness

1. In God's Mind we are **holy** because we are **separated** from the world by our **salvation** through trust in Christ's sacrifice.

Holiness is up to you.

2 Corinthians 6:17,18 *"So, come out from among [unbelievers], and **separate** (sever) yourselves from them, says the Lord, and touch not [any] unclean thing; then I will receive you kindly and treat you with favor,
18 And I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.*

Men, God is calling you to come out and be separate – and then to remain separate from that which is "unclean".

Question: Have you ever made a decision to pursue personal holiness?

No matter how unholy you may have been or how unholy you may be right at this present moment, you can make today a day of **new** beginnings. A **new** start. A putting off the old and a putting on the new.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father,
I want to become holy in Your sight – and I desperately want my sins to be forgiven and be saved from eternity in hell. I realize I am helpless to save myself and nothing I can ever do can pay for what I've done against You. I believe You love me enough to send Jesus Christ to die in my place. Thank You for such an incredible act of love. I now receive Christ's death for me and I trust in His sacrifice and ask Him to be my Saviour.
In Jesus' Name,
Amen.

Signed: _____
Date:

2.

Romans 12:1 *"I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive **dedication of your bodies** [presenting all your members and faculties] as a **living sacrifice, holy** (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship."*

The **second** stage is when you present of your life to God through gratitude for His love and His mercy to you.

This step is an optional step to present yourself as a living sacrifice must be done **willingly** and **voluntarily, separating** yourself from this world, from even your own desires, to **separate** yourself unto the Lord.

After you are saved, you must face the Lord's call on your heart. Holiness always starts with the heart. It is not a set of rules and regulations, but a **relationship** of **trust** and **complete dedication**.

Matthew 16:24 *"Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone desires to be My disciple, let him **deny himself** [disregard, lose sight of, and forget himself and his own interests] and take up his cross and follow Me [cleave steadfastly to Me, conform wholly to My example in living and, if need be, in dying, also]."*

Without a **desire** to come after Jesus, you will never pay the price He asks. He wants to be number One to you above everyone else or you just can't be His disciple. He asks you to give Him the "deed" of everything you have today and ever will have.

Question: Are you ready to step before Christ and to present yourself to Him, as a living sacrifice – totally dead to self, your own desires, your dreams – and to live for Him and the fulfillment of His vision for you?

This is VERY serious – not only for you, but for the Lord as well. Humble yourself before the Lord and kneel down right where you are. This is a true moment of **Destiny**.

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father

I have heard Your call to present myself as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to You. I confess that up to this point in my life, for the most part, I have lived for myself and put You in the back seat of my life.

I repent and turn from this idolatry as I am convicted of the major sin of putting myself as the god I have served, not You.

I now present myself to You as a living sacrifice. I choose voluntarily and freely to come after You, deny myself, take up my cross, and follow You. I give myself to You genuinely and wholeheartedly and through this act of separating myself, I become a holy man of God in my heart. Never will I doubt this moment regardless of what has happened in my life in the past or the future. I thank You for receiving my sacrifice which is given out of love in my heart for You and a desire to follow hard after You. In the Holy Name of Jesus Christ,
Amen.

Signed:**Date:** _____

3. Practical Holiness

2 Timothy 2:19, 21, 22 *"But the firm foundation of (laid by) God stands, sure and unshaken, bearing this seal (inscription): The Lord knows those who are His, and, Let everyone who names [himself by] the Name of the Lord give up all iniquity and **stand aloof** from it.*

*21 So whoever **cleanses himself** [from what is ignoble and unclean, who **separates** himself from contact with contaminating and corrupting influences] will [then himself] be a vessel **set apart** and useful for **honorable** and **noble** purposes, **consecrated** and **profitable** to the Master, fit and ready for any good work.*

*22 Shun youthful lusts and flee from them, and aim at and **pursue righteousness** (all that is virtuous and good, right living, conformity to the will of God in thought, word, and deed); [and aim at and pursue] **faith, love, [and] peace** (harmony and concord with others) in fellowship with all [Christians], who call upon the Lord out of a **pure heart**."*

Practical holiness is a lifelong process of **cleansing yourself** from sin and pursuing **righteousness**.

You must seek God out of a **pure heart** through complete **obedience**.

The responsibility to “**cleanse**” yourself, “**flee lusts**” and “**pursue righteousness**”, is the responsibility of the believer’s, not the Lord’s. The Holy Spirit dwells in the lives of all who know Christ and He works in and through us to will and to do His good pleasure. His good pleasure is that you would become a man of holiness. – the Lord works deeply, but He commands you to cleanse yourself!

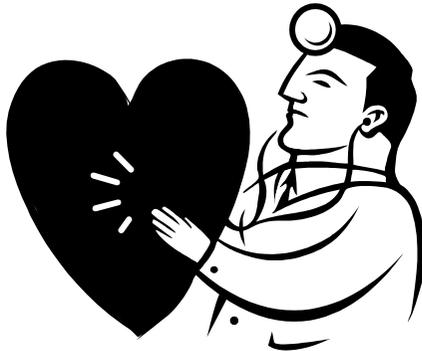
To all who would **obey** and **depart, cleanse, flee** and **pursue**, “he will be a vessel of honour, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.”

Question: Will you open your heart to the convicting power of the Holy Spirit and ask Him what things must be cleansed from your Life?

Sit quietly before Him – don't hurry – LISTEN!
Make a list – the point isn't the **size** of your list – it is what you **do** with your list. Take each of those points and confess them one by one before the Lord. Ask His forgiveness and cleansing until each item on this list is clean.

Very important – Remember!

This exercise should frequently be followed as you pursue holiness.



PART II TEMPTATION

1 Corinthians 10:12, 13 “Therefore let anyone who **thinks he stands** [who feels sure that he has a steadfast mind and is standing firm], **take heed lest he fall** [into sin].
 13 For no **temptation** (no trial regarded as enticing to sin), [no matter how it comes or where it leads] has overtaken you and laid hold on you that is **not common to man** [that is, no temptation or trial has come to you that is **beyond human resistance** and that is not adjusted and adapted and belonging to human experience, and such as man can bear]. But **God is faithful** [to His Word and to His compassionate nature], and He [can be trusted] not to let you **be tempted** and tried and assayed **beyond your ability and strength of resistance and power to endure**, but with the **temptation** He will [always] also provide **the way out** (the **means of escape** to a **landing place**), that you may be **capable** and **strong** and **powerful to bear up** under it patiently.”

Temptations are strategic in your quest for personal holiness. Why? Because they lie between you and your goal of holiness. How? Temptations are the **entry door** to every sin.

Even though you may not have recognized it, you were **tempted** before you sinned. At the moment of a temptation you can either experience **defeat** or **victory**.

Have you ever heard: "God made me do it" or "The temptation was just too strong, I couldn't help myself" or "The devil made me do it", etc, etc.?? This is called "**rational lies**." We want to give ourselves permission to sin.

Truth: "No temptation has overtaken me except such as is common to man."

Never believe for a moment that your temptations are "too strong" because they aren't, never have been, never will be.

The Lord knows you and your limitations and His sovereignty stops the force of the temptation before it crashes through your abilities to say "no". God says He is faithful and won't permit it to happen.

God is **always** there for you when you are tempted. **ALWAYS**.

God not only limits the strength of the temptation, but He also provides the **escape route** out of that temptation. The “escape” has **one** purpose and **one** purpose only: **to enable you to successfully face your temptation without sinning.**

The precise meaning of “**escape**” in this verse is a **secret pass** through the mountain, or a **trap door** out of a prison, or a **tunnel** around the danger.

To **escape** is a way to “**get free, get out, break loose, etc.**”

Your way of escape is made for you for that very situation. Not “**a**” way of escape. Not “**many**” ways of escape. Just “**the**” way of escape – at that **very time**, in that **very situation, just for you.** It’s **the** way of escape for “you” during your time of temptation. God does not want us to sin – He has done everything necessary in every temptation to provide the way of escape for you.

GOD IS FAITHFUL AND WILL MAKE THE WAY OF ESCAPE.

Regardless of your faithfulness or unfaithfulness. His character does not change in response to yours – He is **ALWAYS** faithful. He does everything necessary for you to be able to remain holy right in the face of strong and relentless temptations.

What is our Responsibility?

The Lord **limits**. The Lord makes **the escape**. But we **bear the temptation**.

The term "**bear**" comes from a Greek word "**to bear up under**" and includes the concept of **endurance** and **fortitude** under **stress** and **distress**.

2 Timothy 3:11 *"Persecutions, sufferings—such as occurred to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra, **persecutions I endured**, but out of them all the Lord delivered me."*

1 Peter 2:19

*"For one is regarded favorably (is approved, acceptable, and (thankworthy) if, as in the sight of God, **he endures the pain of unjust suffering.**"*

"**Bearing**" or "**enduring**" definitely can include **suffering** and **grief**.

We are challenged to endure under them – it will include **difficulties, distress, discouragement**.

"That you may **be able** to bear it" – regardless of the nature of the temptation, you can always find strength to be able to endure it – no matter how **difficult, how long, how painful, how confusing, how perplexing** – you will always be able to endure it.

Ephesians 6:13 *"Therefore put on God's complete armor, that you may be able to resist and stand your ground on the evil day [of danger], and, having done all [the crisis demands], to stand [firmly in your place]."*

The Shocking Truth why you are Tempted

James 1:14 *"But every person is tempted when he is **drawn away, enticed and baited** by his own evil desire (lust, passions)."*

The source of temptation is **inside** of you!

The word "**desires**" is the word we translate "**lusts**"

1 Corinthians 10:6 *"Now these things are examples (warnings and admonitions) for us not to **desire or crave or covet or lust** after evil and carnal things as they did."*

Matthew 5:28 *"But I say to you that everyone who so much as looks at a woman with **evil desire** for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."*

James 4:1-2 "WHAT LEADS to strife (discord and feuds) and how do conflicts (quarrels and fightings) originate among you? Do they not arise from your **sensual desires** that are ever warring in your bodily members?

2 You are **jealous** and **covet** [what others have] and your **desires** go unfulfilled; [so] you become **murderers**. [To hate is to murder as far as your hearts are concerned.] You burn with **envy** and **anger** and are not able to obtain [the gratification, the contentment, and the happiness that you seek], so you **fight** and **war**. You do not have, because you do not ask."

Romans 13:14 "But clothe yourself with the Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah), and make no provision for [indulging] **the flesh** [put a stop to thinking about the **evil cravings** of your physical nature] to [gratify its] **desires (lusts)**."

Ephesians 4:22 "Strip yourselves of your **former nature** [put off and discard your old unrenewed self] which characterized your previous manner of life and becomes corrupt through **lusts** and **desires** that spring from delusion;"

1 Timothy 6:9 "But those who **crave** to be rich fall into **temptation** and a **snare** and into many foolish (useless, godless) and hurtful **desires** that

*plunge men into **ruin and destruction** and miserable **perishing**.*"

2 Timothy 2:22 *"Shun youthful **lusts and flee** from them, and aim at and **pursue righteousness** (all that is virtuous and good, right living, conformity to the will of God in thought, word, and deed); [and aim at and pursue] **faith, love, [and] peace** (harmony and concord with others) in **fellowship** with all [Christians], who call upon the Lord out of a **pure heart**."*

1 Peter 2:11

*"Beloved, I implore you as aliens and strangers and exiles [in this world] to abstain from the **sensual urges** (the **evil desires, the passions of the flesh**, your lower nature) that **wage war** against the soul."*

1 John 2:16 *"For all that is in the world—the **lust of the flesh** [craving for sensual gratification] and the **lust of the eyes** [greedy longings of the mind] and the **pride of life** [assurance in one's own resources or in the stability of earthly things]—these do not come from the Father but are from the world [itself]."*

The only person we can dare blame for that temptation is what lies in the **lusts of our own heart**.

Passing the blame – blame-shifting – has always been the way to squirm out of responsibility and accountability.

“She / he made me do it...”

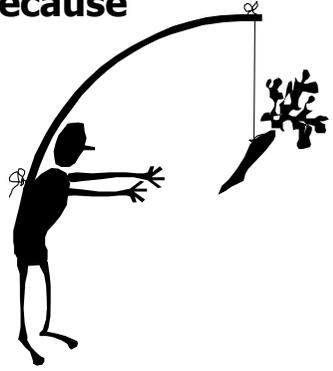
Temptations only work because of your lusts.

What is at the heart of every temptation?

DECEIT! The better the deceit, the better the temptation.

Bare hooks don't catch live fish!

“**Temptations**” are cunning hunters. They are **active** and not **passive**. They come after you rather than you going after them.



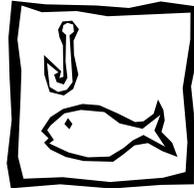
James 1:14 *"But every person is **tempted** when he is **drawn away, enticed and baited** by his own evil desire (lust, passions)."*

First step: You've got to **see/think** the temptation before you can start desiring it. You must be "**drawn away**" by either **seeing, smelling, feeling, or thinking** something. At that **moment**, depending upon your "**lust factor**", you are vulnerable to being "**enticed**".

When you are “drawn away”, the temptation moves to the **crucial step** in the whole process of leading you from “holiness” or even “innocence” at that moment to the act of sin or “unholiness”. Once your attention is grabbed, the crucial issue is whether or not the temptation can keep your attention long enough for your “**lusts**” or “desires” to be aroused.

“**Entice**” actually means, “**to bait**” or “**to snare**”

The temptation **grabs** your **attention** and focuses it upon something that may look good just to you, at **this** time, and in **this** place.



Then the temptation starts wiggling that incredible bait right in front of your eyes!

The **longer** you look at that bait, or think about that tempting thought, the more **power** it seems to have over you and seemingly tempts you all the more.

DANGER!! STOP!!

The moment your emotions are raised, you are in danger.



The moment you tell yourself it's okay to move a little closer, or to take a second look, or linger a moment more, or fantasize just one more split second – is the moment your holiness is in danger of being enticed into the “unholy” category.

It is obvious – **temptation cannot be sin**. They are the “**advertisement**” to **entice** you to **purchase!** Until you **purchase** you have not sinned.

Many men are confused about this matter.

TEMPTATION IS NOT SIN – it is not evil, or wicked, or sinful. It is just a part of living.

The Most important thing to learn on the Road to Holiness

Immediately identify when you have been "drawn away" and when you are in the process of being "enticed".

At that very moment you must **turn away**. The **sooner** you **stop** considering the temptation, the **safer** you are. The **longer** you consider the temptation, the **stronger** it becomes.

The easiest time to remain holy is in the first instant of being "drawn away" or "enticed". When you see a tempting situation, **gird** up your **mind**, **strengthen** your **will** and start to do **warfare** in Jesus Name!

The Bible reveals **two special categories** of intense temptations.

The **first category** of intense temptation comes from the **spiritual world** and is masterminded by satan.

An example of this category in the Bible is in the Book of **Job**. This attack was completely destructive, painful, enduring, and confusing. He walked blameless before God.

The more Godly the man, the more threat he is to the enemy – he tries to destroy the man’s character and life, to cause him to turn against God or to stop ministering for God. **Be prepared!**

The **second category** comes from the **internal world** and is masterminded by our **own flesh**. They are not at all the same, but they are both very difficult to overcome.

In this case, instead of the man being so Godly and receiving the strong attacks from satan, this is an ungodly Christian who is receiving the strong temptations from his **consistent pattern** of ungodliness.

The temptations are from **inside** the man rather than outside – and from his **own lust** rather than from the “roaring lion” seeking to devour.

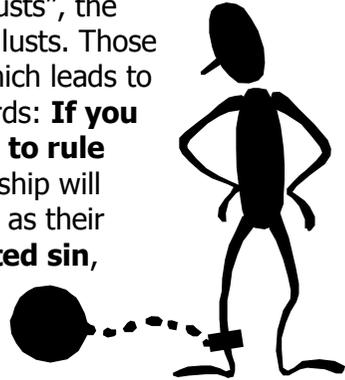
Romans 6:12, 16, 19 *"12 Let not sin therefore **rule as king** in your mortal (short-lived, perishable) bodies, to make you yield to its **cravings** and be subject to its **lusts** and **evil passions**.*

*16 Do you not know that if you **continually surrender** yourselves to anyone to do his will, you are the **slaves** of him whom you obey, whether that be to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience which leads to righteousness (right doing and right standing with God)?*

19 I am speaking in familiar human terms because of your natural limitations. For as you yielded your

***bodily members** [and faculties] as servants to impurity and ever **increasing lawlessness**, so now yield your bodily members [and faculties] once for all as servants to **righteousness** (right being and doing) [which leads] to **sanctification**. "*

The more a man "gives into his lusts", the more he becomes a **slave** of his lusts. Those lusts grow from "lawlessness" which leads to "more lawlessness". In other words: **If you continue to permit your lusts to rule over you, they will.** Their rulership will **grow stronger** and **stronger** – as their power grows due to your **repeated sin**, so will the power of their temptations.



This is the reason why Christian men experience such **powerful** addictions to sin. Not because of the overpowering nature of temptations, but because they have **repeatedly** – and **wilfully** – **presented their bodies** and **souls to that sin**.

Such a person must now choose to **repent**, **renew** his mind, and **reform** his behaviour – choose to **deny** those powerful lusts – even receive **deliverance** if necessary.

Through **persistence** and **active submission** to the Holy Spirit, he can eventually overcome this lust inside of his heart.

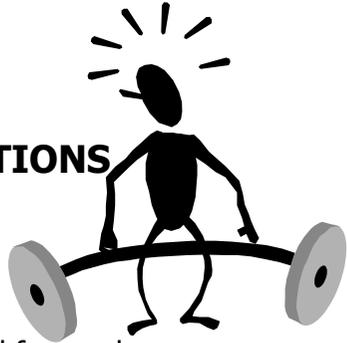
Question: Are you experiencing major overpowering temptations? This means that you have given into your fleshly desires over and over again.

The external temptations have not got any more powerful than before – you have chosen to feed your lusts.

PART III

A MAN'S DEEPEST QUESTIONS

- **Do I have what it takes?**
- **Am I powerful?**



Until a man know he's a man he will forever be trying to prove he is one, while at the same time shrink from anything that might reveal he is not. Most men live their lives haunted by the question, or crippled by the answer they've been given.

Where does masculinity come from?

Masculinity is **bestowed**. A boy learns who he is and what he's got from a man, or the company of men. He cannot learn it from other boys, and he cannot learn it from the world of women. The plan from the beginning of time was that his **father** would lay the foundation for a young boy's heart, and pass on to him that essential knowledge and confidence in his strength.

Dad would be the first man in his life, and forever the most important man. Above all, he would answer **the question** for his son and give him his name. Femininity can **never** bestow masculinity. He turns to his **mother** for **comfort** but to his **dad** for **adventure**, to **test his strength**, and most of all, to get the **answer** to his question.

Masculinity is an **essence** that is hard to articulate but that a boy naturally **craves** as he craves food and water.

Searching for the Answer

Every man carries a wound. We live in a broken world full of broken people. Our earthly fathers have failed to provide the answer of blessing and validating the son and that has left men with **two basic options**.

Men either **overcompensate** for their wound and become driven (violent men), or they shrink back and go **passive** (retreating men). Often it's an odd mixture of both. **What do we do now with the ultimate question?** A man's **core question** does not go away – it drives everything we do.



Where does a man go for a **sense of validation**?

- To what he owns?
- To who pays attention to him?
- How attractive his wife is?
- How well he plays sport?

...**be** somebody!

Taking it to Eve

Why is **pornography** the most addictive thing in the universe for men? Certainly, there's the fact that a man is visually wired, that pictures and images arouse men much more than they do women. But the deeper reason is because that seductive beauty reaches down inside and touches your desperate **hunger for validation** as a man you didn't even know you had, touches it like nothing else most men have ever experienced.

If a man can feel an **erection**, he feels **powerful**. He feels **strong**. For many men The Question feels hardwired to his penis. If he can feel like the hero sexually, then he's the hero! If he can't get an erection, then he believes he hasn't got what it takes. Femininity can **arouse** masculinity but it can never **bestow** masculinity. When a man takes his question to the woman, what happens is either **addiction** or **emasculatation**. Usually both.

If a man has given the woman the power to validate him as a man, then he has also given her the power to invalidate him too.

Homosexuals

They know that what is missing in their hearts is **masculine** love. The problem is that they've sexualised it. Homosexuality is an attempt to repair the wound by filling it with masculinity, either the masculine life that was missing or the masculine strength many men feel they do not possess.

It, too, is a vain search and that is why the overwhelming number of homosexual relationships do not last, why so many gay men move from one man to another and why so many suffer from depression and a host of other addictions. What they need cannot be found here.

Eve's wound

Every woman can tell you about her wound, some came with violence others came with neglect. Just as every little boy is asking one question, every little girl is, as well. But her question is not so much about her strength. No, the deep cry of a little girl's heart is **am I lovely?**

Every woman needs to know that she is exquisite and exotic and **chosen**. The core to her identity, the way she bears the image of God. **Will you pursue me? Do you delight in me? Will you fight for me?**

And like every little boy, she has taken a wound as well. The wound strikes right at the core of her heart of beauty and leaves a devastating message with it: **No, you're not beautiful and no one will really fight for you.**

Like your wound, hers almost always comes at the hand of her father. A little girl looks to her father to know if she is lovely. The power he has to cripple or to bless is just as frightening to her as it is to his son. If he is a violent man he may defile her verbally or sexually. The message is: **No, you are dirty. Anything attractive about you is dark and evil. You're not desired, you will not be protected, no one will fight for you.** If a father is passive, a little girl will suffer a silent abandonment.

Men Offering their Strength

Our **sexuality** offers a parable of amazing depth when it comes to being **masculine** and **feminine**.

The man comes to **offer** his **strength** and the woman **invites** the man into herself, an act that requires courage, vulnerability and selflessness for both of them. If the man will not **rise** to the occasion, nothing will happen. He must move, his strength must swell before he can enter her. But neither will the love consummate unless the woman opens herself in stunning vulnerability. The man enters his woman and offers her his strength. He **spills himself there**, in her, for her, she draws him in, embraces and envelopes him. When all is over he is spent; but what a sweet death it is!

And that is how **life** is created. The beauty of a woman arouses a man to play the man, the strength of a man offered tenderly to his woman, allows her to be beautiful, it brings life to her and to many. This is far, far more than sex and orgasm. It is a reality that extends to every aspect of our lives. When a man withholds himself from his woman, he leaves her without the life only he can bring.

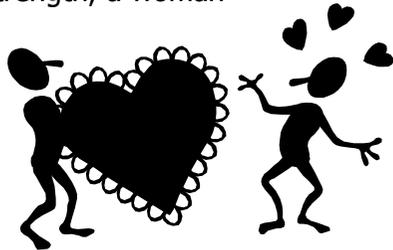
Life and death are in the power of the tongue (Prov 18: 21). She is **made for** and **craves** words from him. If a man refuses to offer himself, then

his wife will remain empty and barren. A **violent** man destroys with his **words**, a **silent** man **starves** his wife. If your bride is “wilting”, then you are withholding something. Your **words**, your **touch**, but **mostly**, your **delight**.

Under the shadow of a man’s strength, a woman finds rest.

Yes, you are lovely. Yes, there is one who will fight for you.

QUESTION: Men, will you fight for your wife’s heart?



Using her

Most men want the maiden without any sort of cost to themselves. They want all the joys of the beauty without any of the woes of the battles.

This is what **pornography** is all about – enjoying the woman at her expense. Pornography is what happens when a man insists on being energized by a woman; he **uses** her to get a feeling that he is a man. It is a false strength because it depends on an outside source rather than emanating from deep within his being. He offers nothing and takes everything.

QUESTION: Have you been guilty of this sin?

PART IV

SEX - A MAN'S TOUGHEST TEMPTATION

1 Thessalonians 4:3 *"For this is the will of God, that you should be **consecrated** (**separated** and **set apart** for pure and holy living): that you should abstain and shrink from all **sexual vice**,"*

The Will of God is your **sanctification – holiness** – specifically, that you would abstain from **sexual immorality**.

If a man does not get his sexuality under God's control, he will not be able to become a man of holiness. **Sexual immorality is a threshold sin.**

Immorality	Purity
guilt	freedom
lying	honesty
deceit	transparency
addiction	liberty
shame	clear conscience

Question: Is this area of your life pleasing to the Lord?

If problem is present now, rank how big a problem it is from a high "A" to a low "C".

Have you been...	Y E S	N E V E R	N O W	A	B	C
1. Immoral by sex before marriage?						
2. Immoral by sex outside of marriage? (affair)?						
3. Immoral by sexual activity with another man?						
4. Immoral by sexual activity with a child?						
5. Immoral by practicing a sexual perversion?						
6. Immoral by looking at printed pornography?						
7. Immoral by viewing sexual activity on TV/video?						
8. Immoral by calling the sex lines?						
9. Immoral by erotic situations on the Internet?						
10. Immoral by visiting striptease / sexual massage?						
11. Immoral by lusting after						

another person sexually?						
12. Immoral by sexual addictions in your private life?						

1 Corinthians 7:2-5 "2 But because of the **temptation to impurity** and to avoid **immorality**, let each [man] have his **own wife** and let each [woman] have her own husband.
3 The husband should give to his wife her **conjugal rights** (goodwill, kindness, and what is due her as his wife), and likewise the wife to her husband.
4 For the wife does not have [exclusive] **authority** and **control** over her **own body**, but the husband [has his rights]; likewise also the husband does not have [exclusive] **authority** and **control** over his body, but the wife [has her rights].
5 Do not **refuse** and **deprive** and **defraud** each other [of your due marital rights], except perhaps by **mutual consent for a time**, so that you may **devote yourselves** unhindered to **prayer**. But afterwards **resume marital relations**, lest Satan **tempt** you [to sin] through your **lack of restraint of sexual desire**."

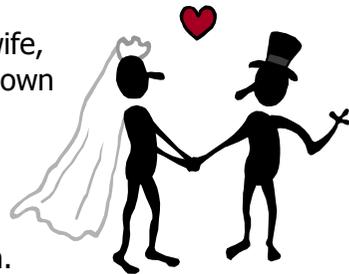
Two major problems with men in their sexual lives has to do with "**Sexual Immorality**" and "**self-control**".

What is the solution?

"Let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband."

The marriage relationship is God's primary provision for your sexual drives and their full expression and satisfaction.

This isn't an option, or a suggestion, but a **command** – you are to "**have**" your own wife.



The proper fulfilment of your sex drive and your emotional love and affection is to be solidly focused in the person of your wife. She is the God-given solution. God never intended your sex drive to be a problem but rather a **pleasure** to you.

Proverbs 5: 15, 18, 19 *"Drink waters out of your own cistern [of a pure marriage relationship], and fresh running waters out of your own well.
18 Let your fountain [of human life] be blessed [with the rewards of fidelity], and rejoice in the wife of your youth.
19 Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant doe [tender, gentle, attractive]—let her bosom satisfy you at all times, and always be transported with delight in her love."*

Meeting Each Other's Sexual Needs

1 Corinthians 7:3-4 *"3The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights (goodwill, kindness, and what is due her as his wife), and likewise the wife to her husband.
4 For the wife does not have [exclusive] authority and control over her own body, but the husband [has his rights]; likewise also the husband does not have [exclusive] authority and control over his body, but the wife [has her rights]."*

The husband is to "fulfill his duty" – i.e., he is to **proactively** be the "food" for his wife's sexual hunger.

God **commands** you and your wife to meet each other's sexual needs.

God feels so strongly about sexual intimacy and our sexual drives that He literally gave us "authority" over our spouse's body.

It is the will of God that we should be sexually satisfied.

When do we not have sex in Marriage?

1 Corinthians 7:5 *"Do not refuse and deprive and defraud each other [of your due marital rights], except perhaps **by mutual consent for a time**, so that you may devote yourselves **unhindered to prayer**. But afterwards resume marital relations, lest Satan tempt you [to sin] through your lack of restraint of sexual desire."*

"Depriving one another" – means, "to **defraud, rob, despoil, to deprive**"

If you withhold your body from your spouse you are actually **stealing** something that is not yours! If you say "no" to your wife's sexual needs, you rob her of something that God Himself has given her.

Three exceptions:

1. You can deprive each other by "**agreement**". If **both** agree not to have sexual relations it is acceptable to the lord.
2. You can deprive each other "**for a time**" which sets a **time limit** on how long the postponement can be. Both partners must consent.
3. The only revealed reason to ask for permission to "**deprive one another**" is for both of you to devote your **full attention** to spiritual matters including **fasting** and **prayer** – **both** are involved in this "sexual fast."

"Finally, you should "come together again lest satan tempt you because of your lack of self control."

By not having regular relations, your self-control will definitely be affected.

If one partner decides to deprive the other of sexual relations they are actually **forcing** their spouse to fight **satanic temptations** that he/she would otherwise not have to face!

Sexual Affairs

Hebrews 13:4 "Let marriage be held in **honor** (esteemed worthy, **precious**, of **great price**, and especially dear) in **all** things. And thus let the **marriage bed** be **undefiled** (kept undishonored); for God will judge and punish the **fornicators (pornos)** [all guilty of sexual vice] and **adulterous (moikos)**."

God Himself will judge those who are involved in sexual immorality including one night stands, visits to prostitutes, sexual affairs, etc.

1 Corinthians 10:8 "We must not gratify evil desire and indulge in **sexual immorality (pornos)** as some of them did—and twenty-three thousand [suddenly] fell dead in a single day!"

Galatians 5:19, 21 "Now the doings (practices) of the flesh are clear (obvious): they are **immorality, impurity, indecency, adultery (moikos), fornication (pornos)**
21 Envy, drunkenness, carousing, and the like. I warn you beforehand, just as I did previously, that those who do such things **shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**"

Proverbs 7:21-23; 25-27 "With much **justifying** and **enticing argument** she

persuades him, with the allurements of her lips she leads him [to overcome his conscience and his fears] and **forces** him along.

22 **Suddenly** he [**yields** and] follows her reluctantly like an ox moving to the slaughter, like one in fetters going to the correction [to be given] to a fool or like a dog enticed by food to the muzzle

23 Till a **dart** [of passion] **pierces** and **inflames** his **vitals**; then like a **bird** fluttering straight into the **net** [he hastens], not knowing **that it will cost him his life.**"

25 Let not your heart incline toward her ways, do not stray into her paths.

26 For she has cast down **many wounded**; indeed, all her slain are a mighty host.

27 Her house is the way to **Sheol** (**Hades**, the place of the dead), going down to the chambers of death.

Please note: Sleeping with a prostitute opens the door to a spirit of **murder** and **death**.

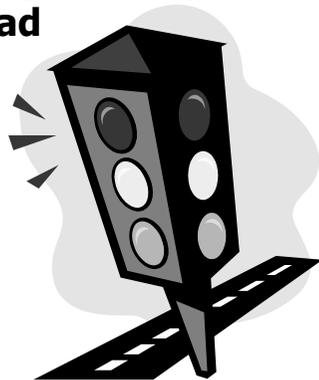


The bottom line...

Proverbs 9:10, 12 *"The **reverent** and **worshipful fear of the Lord** is the **beginning** (the chief and choice part) of **Wisdom**, and the knowledge of the Holy One is **insight** and **understanding**.*

12 If you are wise, you are wise for yourself; if you scorn, you alone will bear it and pay the penalty."

If you are in the middle of an affair, stop immediately. If you are considering an affair, stop it today, in Jesus Name. If you had an affair, work through the issues. GET DELIVERANCE! The sooner you judge yourself, the sooner God's discipline can be averted.



PART IV

VICTORY THROUGH THE COMPLETED WORK OF JESUS!



It is the will of God that in every temptation, you experience **full** and **enduring** victory. God provides **everything** that you need to overcome the most **difficult** and **persistent** temptation to sin.

Unfortunately, most men are **ignorant** regarding temptation. And as a result he falls unnecessarily in the battlefield. Massive numbers lie severely wounded – many marriages have been destroyed by **divorce**, children are wounded by **rejection**, **rebellion** and **isolation**.

Three armies have gathered together to destroy you. They work together for your downfall and destruction. **1) The world; 2) The Flesh; 3) The devil.**

Ephesians 2:1-3 "AND YOU [He made alive], when you were dead (slain) by [your] trespasses and sins

2 In which at one time you walked [habitually]. You were following the course and fashion of **this world** [were under the sway of the tendency of this present age], following the **prince of the power of the air**. [You were obedient to and under the control of] the [demon] spirit that still constantly works in the **sons of disobedience** [the **careless**, the **rebellious**, and the **unbelieving**, who go against the purposes of God].

3 Among these we as well as you once lived and conducted ourselves in the **passions of our flesh** [our behavior governed by our corrupt and sensual nature], obeying **the impulses of the flesh** and the **thoughts of the mind** [our **cravings** dictated by our **senses** and our **dark imaginings**]. We were then by nature children of [God's] wrath and heirs of [His] indignation, like the rest of mankind."

The moment you accepted Christ as your personal Saviour, the battle cry sounded and from this point until your last breath, your life will never be without warfare.

You have been provided with **all** you will ever need to defeat your foe at every turn. He provides your **armour, weapons, supplies,** and **fellow soldiers** to aid in the battle, your **battle plan** for enduring victory, and even the **strategies** and **plans** of your enemy!

Unfortunately, many Christian men leave all their battle armour, weapons, fellow soldiers, supplies, and battle plans all piled up in one big heap, way off the mainstream of life and it's battles.

They do not believe that the battle is real!

My brother, you are called to **overcome all temptations** and **stand** in the Might of Your Great King. The Victor Jesus has already defeated your enemy and calls you to join with Him in fully possessing your victory!

Becoming an Overcomer

A **temptation** is an attack against you and has **one goal**, to bring **defeat** to you through **enticing** you to **disobey** God by sinning. Become very discerning regarding your temptations. Become more and more sensitive to those times you are being tempted. **Practise! Practise! Practise!**

1. First source of temptation – The World (External)

Greek for "the **world**" is "**kosmos**". Satan rules this kosmos – it's **values, strategies, personnel,** and **purposes** which control the **systems** of the world including education, media, finance, business, etc.

We all dwell in the world where he currently rules as the "prince".

1 John 5:19 *"We know [positively] that we are of God, and the **whole world [around us] is under the power of the evil one.**"*

When we reach out to Jesus as Saviour, He transfers us out of satan's kingdom into His Kingdom of Light.

Colossians 1:13, 14 *"[The Father] has delivered and drawn us to Himself **out** of the control and the dominion of **darkness** and has **transferred** us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,
14 In Whom we have our **redemption** through His **blood**, [which means] the forgiveness of our sins.*

The first source of temptation is everything connected to the world system – satan's system through which he rules the world and seeks to discredit and destroy all who belong and are committed to Christ.

1 John 2:15-17 *"Do not **love** or **cherish** the **world** or the **things** that **are in the world**. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in him.*

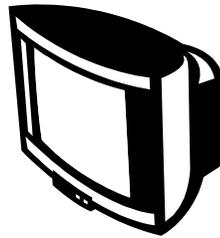
*16 For all that is in the world—the **lust of the flesh** [craving for sensual gratification] and the **lust of the eyes** [greedy longings of the mind] and the **pride of life** [assurance in one's own resources or in the stability of earthly things]—these do not come from the Father but are **from the world** [itself].*

*17 And the **world passes away** and **disappears**, and with it the **forbidden cravings** (the passionate desires, the lust) of it; but he who **does the will of God** and carries out His **purposes** in his life abides (remains) forever.*

**Questions: How preoccupied are you with the worldly systems?
How focused are you on choosing the Lord and not the world?
“the lust of the flesh, of the eyes,
and the pride of life”.**

- The “**lust of the flesh**” includes **sexual desires** and the general desire to be **entertained** by sensual things.

Guard your heart from **movies** and **videos** and hours of **television** you watch. Watch the **books** and **magazines** you are tempted to read.



- The “**lust of the eyes**” includes **coveting** after what you see – watch your **attitudes** and visits to **shopping malls**. What did you “just have to buy?” Are you in **debt**? Could it be because you may have a bad case of coveting more than the Lord has provided for you?

- The “**pride of life**” means to have a **self-satisfied arrogance** and **vainglory**



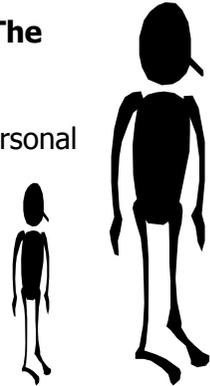
relating to one's **external circumstances** including **wealth, position** or **power**. eg. The "right clothing", the "right neighbourhood", the "right church", the "right car", etc.

2. The Second source of Temptation – The Flesh (Internal)

When we accepted Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, our **old man** did not!

Romans 8:7, 8 *"7[That is] because the **mind of the flesh** [with its carnal thoughts and purposes] is **hostile to God**, for it does **not submit** itself to **God's Law**; indeed **it cannot**.*

*8 So then those who are living the life of the flesh [catering to the appetites and impulses of their carnal nature] **cannot please** or **satisfy God**, or be acceptable to Him."*



Our flesh is a literal **enemy** of God! Our flesh is **not subject** to God. We cannot "**convert**" or "improve" our flesh, it just will not change.

The desires of the flesh are:

Galatians 5:19-21 *"Now the doings (practices) of the flesh are clear (obvious): they are **immorality, impurity, indecency,***

*20 **Idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, anger** (ill temper), **selfishness, divisions** (dissensions), **party spirit** (factions, sects with peculiar opinions, heresies),*

*21 **Envy, drunkenness, carousing**, and the like. I warn you beforehand, just as I did previously, that those who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."*

Your "flesh" is who you were before you met Jesus Christ.

What can you do to discover and enjoy victory over the flesh?

1. By Jesus' death and resurrection, He set us free from the **bondage to the flesh**.
2. He sent His spirit into our lives (who also dwells inside of us) for the supreme purpose of **overpowering our flesh** for and with us.

God's Answer:

Romans 8:13 *"For if you **live according** to [the dictates of] **the flesh**, you will **surely die**. But if through the **power of the [Holy] Spirit** you are [habitually] **putting to death** (making extinct, deadening) the [evil] deeds prompted by the body, you shall [really and genuinely] live forever."*

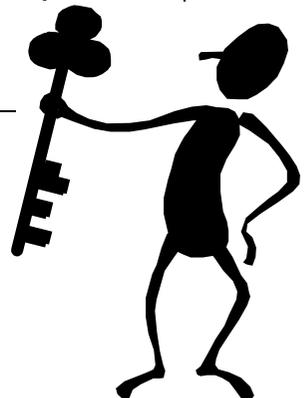
Romans 13:13-14 "Let us **live** and **conduct** ourselves **honorably** and becomingly as in the [open light of] day, not in reveling (carousing) and drunkenness, not in immorality and debauchery (sensuality and licentiousness), not in quarreling and jealousy.

14 But **clothe yourself** with the **Lord Jesus Christ** (the Messiah), and make **no provision** for [indulging] **the flesh** [put a stop to thinking about the evil cravings of your physical nature] to [gratify its] desires (lusts)."

Galatians 5:16, 24 "But I say, **walk and live [habitually] in the [Holy] Spirit** [responsive to and **controlled** and **guided by the Spirit**]; then you will certainly **not gratify** the cravings and desires of the flesh (of human nature without God).

24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus (the Messiah) have **crucified the flesh** (the godless human nature) with its passions and appetites and desires."

The key to victory over the "flesh" is the "walk in



the Spirit” because as you do that “you shall not fulfil the lusts of the flesh”.

Galatians 5:17 *“For the **desires of the flesh** are **opposed** to the **[Holy] Spirit**, and the [desires of the] Spirit are opposed to the flesh (godless human nature); for these are antagonistic to each other [continually withstanding and in conflict with each other], so that you are **not free** but are prevented from doing what you desire to do.”*

In practical terms, there are **two forces** struggling inside of you against each other because they are contrary to one another. When the Spirit is not in control, the flesh is and visa versa.

Romans 8:5 *"For those who are **according to the flesh** and are **controlled** by its unholy desires set their minds on and pursue those things which **gratify the flesh**, but those who are according to the **Spirit** and are **controlled** by the **desires of the Spirit** set their minds on and seek those things which **gratify the [Holy] Spirit.**"*

Get to Know the Holy Spirit and learn to walk very close to Him.

3. The Third Source of Temptation – Spiritual (Satan and demons)

Unlike the world, the devil is a **person**, not a system. He is **ruthless, cunning, deceitful, manipulative, dishonest** and **completely destructive**. He has nearly unlimited reinforcements to carry out his battle plans.

Ephesians 6:10-12 *"10 In conclusion, **be strong** in the Lord [be empowered through your union with Him]; **draw your strength from Him** [that*

strength which His boundless might provides].
11 Put on **God's whole armor** [the armor of a heavy-armed soldier which God supplies], that you may **be able successfully to stand** up against [all] the **strategies** and the **deceits** of the **devil**.
12 For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the **despotisms**, against the **powers**, against [the master spirits who are] the **world rulers** of this present darkness, against the **spirit forces** of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere."

Note: "We wrestle" – the struggle is so intense that the Bible states we must "**be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might**".

The goal of your enemy is clear: to make you fall, and continue to fall, and remain a thoroughly defeated, nearly useless warrior in the Lord's army.

The Bible emphasizes the ongoing, current struggle of the believer with his personal enemy – you struggle directly and frequently with invisible foes. You are facing not just the devil, but the “wiles” of the devil – strategies, plans, methods, tricks of deceit, cunning, etc.



Taking the Defence against the Devil's Temptations

1. Do not give place to the devil – especially through your anger.

Ephesians 4:26, 27 *"26 When **angry**, do not **sin**; do not ever let your wrath (your exasperation, your fury or indignation) last until the sun goes down.*
*27 **Leave no [such] room or foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him]."***

Do not let your **anger** run out of control, harbour it overnight, or **seek vengeance**. Also **continual sin** in a particular area gives a “**place**” to satan to more and more freely attack you. These are the toughest areas to defeat.

2. Do not be ignorant of the devil's devices nor let him take advantage of you – especially forgive others.

2 Corinthians 2:10, 11 *"If you **forgive anyone** anything, I too forgive that one; and what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sakes in the presence [and with the approval] of Christ (the Messiah),*
11 To keep Satan from getting the advantage over us; for we are not ignorant of his wiles and intentions."

3. Do not be foolish in your sexual life by doing anything which weakens your self-control or satan will take advantage and tempt you unnecessarily.

If you are experiencing attacks and temptations from the enemy in your **sexual life**, then you may be experiencing **unconnected** and **persistent lustful internal thoughts** or you may be facing other temptations through people who purposefully and persistently tempt you to immorality even when you flee from it and them.

4. Do not be unprepared and try to live even one day without your **complete armour**. **Each piece is strategic**, each is **necessary**, and each must be "**put on**" or else you are not protected!
5. Do not be ignorant regarding **false teachers** who are deceitful workers of satan.

6. **Memorize** and **meditate** on Key Bible passages directly related to where you are being attacked:

Psalm 119:9-11 *"How shall a young man cleanse his way? By **taking heed** and **keeping watch** [on himself] **according to Your word** [conforming his life to it].
10 With my **whole heart** have I sought You, **inquiring for** and of You and **yearning for You**;
Oh, let me **not wander** or **step aside** [either in **ignorance** or **willfully**] from Your commandments.
11 Your **word** have I laid up in my **heart**, that I might not sin against You."*

7. **Pray** and **fast** for victory for yourself and others especially in heavy temptations.

Ephesians 6:17, 18 *"And take the helmet of salvation and the sword that the Spirit wields, which is the Word of God.*

18 Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose and perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints (God's consecrated people)."

**ACTIVELY OVERCOME SATAN BY
THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB AND THE
WORD OF OUR TESTIMONY AND
NOT LOVING OUR LIVES TO THE
POINT OF DEATH (Rev. 12:11)**

