



IronWorks: Stand your Ground, Part III – Roger Thompson
“The New Marriage,” Nov. 5 & 10, 2021

Commandment #7: You shall not commit adultery (Exodus 20:14)

What radical changes do these five ancient words make in any culture?

INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

Observation. . . . Interpretation. . . . Application

Observation: ask WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHY, WHEN, HOW?

Circle and draw lines to similar thoughts. Notice contrasts and key words.

Context of Corinth:

I Corinthians 6:12—7:5 (New Living Translation)

¹² You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. And even though “I am allowed to do anything,” I must not become a slave to anything. ¹³ You say, “Food was made for the stomach, and the stomach for food.” (This is true, though someday God will do away with both of them.) But you can’t say that our bodies were made for sexual immorality. They were made for the Lord, and the Lord cares about our bodies. ¹⁴ And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead.

¹⁵ Don’t you realize that your bodies are actually parts of Christ? Should a man take his body, which is part of Christ, and join it to a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶ And don’t you realize that if a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her? For the Scriptures say, “The two are united into one.”^[a] ¹⁷ But the person who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

¹⁸ Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. ¹⁹ Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, ²⁰ for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.

7 Now regarding the questions you asked in your letter. Yes, it is good to abstain from sexual relations.^[b] ² But because there is so much sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband.

³ The husband should fulfill his wife’s sexual needs, and the wife should fulfill her husband’s needs. ⁴ The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband gives authority over his body to his wife.

⁵ Do not deprive each other of sexual relations, unless you both agree to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time so you can give yourselves more completely to prayer. Afterward, you should come together again so that Satan won’t be able to tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

Interpretation:

- 1) The wounding lie: no restraints and no consequences. (v. 12-13)
- 2) What you really believe is the way you will live. (v. 14-17)
- 3) Sexuality involves the whole you. (v. 18-20)
- 4) The true mutuality and intimacy of Marriage. (7:1-5)
- 5) A footnote on abuse:
 - True intimacy is about love: shared vision, shared responsibility, shared resources, shared bodies.
 - Abuse is taking what one wants instead of serving the one that has been given.
 - The mindset of abuse twists this living example of Gospel transformation into:
 - Power
 - Control
 - Entitlement
 - Self-Justification

Application:

Discussion questions:

- 1) What verse or thought stands out for me from this passage of scripture?
- 2) What belief of mine about sexuality and marriage has changed as I have understood God's design better?
- 3) What advice would I give to a young man who wants a lifelong, mutually fulfilling marriage?

Watch this very instructive video about abuse: <https://youtu.be/C6gVREPP57U>