

DATING and CHASTITY Pt.1: VIRGINITY, CHASTITY, SEXUAL IMMORALITY

MATURE CONTENT

If you are married don't tune out. If you are not dating, don't tune out. If you have given your virginity away or it was taken from you forcefully, don't tune out. If you have no desire to date again for whatever the reason, don't tune out. You might think this message isn't for you, but many of us have children we are raising and we need to teach them God's will for their lives in this area. If you have grandchildren or children in your care, you can sow seeds into their lives. If you are on the dating scene, this message is certainly for you. If you will be dating soon, this message is for you. This message is for single people, for teenagers, for parents, for those who are divorced, basically it's for everyone.

The Holy Spirit inspired me to do this message as I was working on the teaching "Christian Women." And this message picks up right behind "Raising Godly Children." I wish I would have been taught the things we are going to learn about in this series.

We are so far removed from God's Word today. If you stopped someone on the street and asked them what chastity means I bet a lot of people wouldn't have a clue.

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chas·ti·ty

/ˈCHastədē/

noun

the state or practice of refraining from extramarital, or especially from all, sexual intercourse.
"vows of chastity"

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Chastity – the state or practice of refraining from extramarital, or especially from all, sexual intercourse.

We as godly parents are to teach our children, boys as well as girls, to abstain from sex until they are married. Usually boys get a pass in this area. We have been conditioned to say, “well boys will be boys.” But the truth is, that’s not God’s way for them. Male children and female children were to be raised to be chaste or that is virgins, until they were married. Let’s go to Deuteronomy to learn more about this.

Deut.22:13-21 - If any man take a wife, and go in unto her, and hate her, And give occasions of speech against her, and bring up an evil name upon her, and say, I took this woman, and when I came to her, I found her not a maid: Then shall the father of the damsel, and her mother, take and bring forth *the tokens of the damsel's (maiden's) virginity* unto the elders of the city in the gate: And the damsel's (maiden's) father shall say unto the elders, I gave my daughter unto this man to wife, and he hateth her; And, lo, he hath given occasions of speech *against her*, saying, I found not thy daughter a maid; and yet these *are the tokens of my daughter's virginity*. And they shall spread the cloth before the elders of the city. And the elders of that city shall take that man and chastise him; And they shall amerce him in an hundred *shekels* of silver, and give *them* unto the father of the damsel (maiden), because he hath brought up an evil name upon a

virgin of Israel: and she shall be his wife; he may not put her away all his days. But if this thing be true, *and the tokens of virginity* be not found for the damsel (maiden): Then they shall bring out the damsel (maiden) to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her with stones that she die: because she hath wrought (done) folly in Israel, to play the whore in her father's house: so shalt thou put evil away from among you.

This passage is talking about a man taking a woman for his wife and after he has had sex with her, they have consummated the marriage, he decides he doesn't like her anymore and he turns against her. So he begins to go around saying she was not a virgin when he married her. This means that she has slept with someone else and he was not aware of it before they were married. Because this was considered a sin back then AND IS STILL A SIN TODAY, to have sex outside of marriage, then he could go around accusing her and give her a bad reputation and she would be killed.

However, if he did this and it wasn't true then he would pay a price for damaging her reputation. When Israelites used to get married, the "cloth" used as proof of a bride's virginity was the material containing blood from the bride's broken hymen. This evidence was collected on the wedding night and kept by the bride's parents.

God designed a woman's body to shed blood the first time she is intimate with a man. Blood covenant between a man and woman when the woman is a virgin. Our virginity and the sharing of it, is special and precious in God's eyes and it should be that way in ours too. We have trampled this gift and have gone the way of the world with it. Yes, even the church is not holding on to their virginity.

It used to be a very serious thing for someone to damage or speak against a woman's reputation. In this passage, the focus seems to be on the female and that is because there is a way to know if she is a virgin or not and it was a very serious thing to make such accusations against a woman. Lives were on the line. God never permitted males to just go around having sex.

Sexual sins are very serious to The Lord and should be just as serious to us today. He has not changed. The same things mentioned here in this passage are still sin today.

Deut.22:22-30 - If a man be found lying with a woman married to an husband, then they shall both of them die, *both* the man that lay with the woman, and the woman: so shalt thou put away evil from Israel. If a damsel (maiden) *that is* a virgin be betrothed unto an husband, and a man find her in the city, and lie with her; Then ye shall bring them both out unto the gate of that city, and ye shall stone them with stones that they die; the damsel (maiden), because she cried not, *being* in the city; and the man, because he hath humbled his neighbour's wife: so thou shalt put away evil from among you. But if a man find a betrothed damsel (maiden) in the field, and the man force her, and lie with her: then the man only that lay with her shall die: But unto the damsel (maiden) thou shalt do nothing; *there is* in the damsel (maiden) no sin *worthy* of death: for as when a man riseth against his neighbour, and slayeth him, even so *is* this matter: For he found her in the field, *and* the betrothed damsel (maiden) cried, and *there was* none to save her. If a man find a damsel (maiden) *that is* a virgin, which is not betrothed, and lay hold on her, and lie with her, and they be found; Then the man that lay with her shall give unto the damsel's (maiden's) father fifty *shekels* of silver, and she shall be his wife; because he hath humbled her, he may not put her away all his days. A man shall not take his father's wife, nor discover his father's skirt.

Adultery is dealt with in this passage, those committing adultery were to be stoned, the man and the woman. It is interesting in the new testament about the woman caught in adultery, she is the only one brought forward for judgment but the man should have been there also according to the law. **(John 8:1-11)** It was not until after Jesus' death that the law was fulfilled so at that time, the law was still in effect.

Rape is also dealt with in this passage. If an engaged woman was raped in the city the man and the woman would both be stoned. The woman was stoned because the idea is that she should have cried out loud enough to have gotten someone's

attention to come and help her. If the rape occurred in the country then only the man would be stoned because the idea is that there may not have been anyone near enough to hear her cry and come and help.

And if a man had sex with a single young woman, not engaged, then they were expected to marry. Notice, neither of them were stoned for this, but they had to then get married. It was a big deal for Joseph to find out Mary was pregnant and it wasn't by him because they had not been intimate sexually and they were engaged. He could have had her stoned but he was only going to put her away privately or that is quietly. **(Matt.1:19)** And then of course the angel Gabriel explained to Joseph what was going on and we know the rest. **(Matt.1:18-25)** Mary was in a very dire situation but because God was the One Who brought that about, He also orchestrated everything to work out. He was in full control.

It has never been ok for men to be promiscuous. Who would they have sex with? We have just learned that in many instances anyone having sex outside of marriage would be stoned. And those committing adultery likewise would be stoned. So if it were ok for men to go around having sex outside of marriage, then who were the women they were having sex with? No, the males were expected to be chaste, that is virgins, just as well as the females were. There was not all of this sleeping around, sex outside of marriage back then because there were such serious consequences. Look how far outside of God's will the world is in this particular area today.

It is the world who has set a stigmatism against being a virgin. It's not cool or you are inexperienced or you don't fit in or you're weird if you are a virgin. That is the world and what the world thinks and does is always against God. We want to raise our children to live to please God. Let's teach them God's way and teenagers and anyone not married, refrain from sex until you are married.

I remember an older woman, who had been divorced for some time, telling me one time in Sunday school that she was abstaining from sex. She was telling me that because even though she was not a virgin any more, it was still wrong for her to be having sex outside of marriage. I never even thought about that group of people in that way before. In my mind back then as a baby Christian, whatever

they did was fine. But that's not true. Anyone who is divorced or widowed must also abstain from sex because sex outside of marriage is sin against God no matter how old you are.

CLOSING

If you messed up and gave your virginity away before marriage, do not continue in fornication. Stop and have a conversation with the person you are being intimate with. If there is no desire to be married then you should not continue to see each other. If you want to marry, then stop having sex until you are married. Confess this known sin to God and ask His forgiveness and repent which means don't have any more sex outside of marriage.

An example of this was from a young man that I met not long ago. He was living with this woman and had been trying to get her to go to church with him for a long time. Finally, one day she went with him. And she liked it! She liked it so much she wanted to join the church. So they talked with the assistant pastor about joining the church. The assistant pastor explained to them with Scriptural examples how they were living in sin against God and so they could not join the church until they were married. The man got mad and got his back up and they left the church! They mouthed off and stayed mad at the church about it. This man told me that Jesus was ok with what they were doing because they were already married in God's eyes.

Some people try to justify living together and sleeping together without being married. They will say, well we are already married in God's eyes. That's not true. God expects us to obey Him and to obey man's laws as long as they do not go against God's Word. To be legally married and have that marriage recorded by the state where you live is not against God's Word. So no, you are not married in God's eyes just because you start living together. You need to take the steps to make it legal.

If you mess up and have sex outside of marriage, you are in sin. Stop the sin. When you fall down, don't stay down, get back up. As a Christian you cannot have the attitude of "oh well, I'm not a virgin so I may as well go on and have sex." Whether you are a virgin or not, all sex outside of marriage is a sin against God. Stop it and ask forgiveness from God and do not continue in sin against

Him. If you love the person you are dating, and they love you, and you are both Christians and understand God's Word on this subject, then there should not be any pressure to have sex outside of marriage. They should be willing to wait otherwise they are not the right person for you because they are willing to commit sin against God in this area.

PRAYER