

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

www.nccdighton.org

12/10/15 - The Gospel, Salvation, & Sanctification - Part 26

Outline:

True love overflows ("abundant", ala perisseuo in 2Co 9:8).

Church Family

God ordained local assemblies and the spiritual gifts that make them function as a grace service to the saints. Commitment to family is a critical facet of spiritual growth. Satan attacks all families (not just household, but also church).

Satan HATES Families!

Some of you REALLY need to let that sink in. Don't just let it roll off of your tongue as some de facto, ubiquitous sentiment against Satan. He ACTIVELY hates YOUR families (household, church, etc.).

Jill Manning, Sociologist

"Research reveals many systemic effects of Internet pornography that are undermining an already vulnerable culture of marriage and family. Even more disturbing is the fact that the first Internet generations have not reached full maturity, so the upper limits of this impact have yet to be realized."

Pornography Statistics (www.covenanteyes.com)

- 1 in 5 mobile searches are for porn (consider kids with cell phones/tablets)
- 24% of mobile users admit to having porn on the device
- The Internet porn business is ~\$3 billion
- 64% of Christian men, 15% of Christian women admit (some won't) watching porn at least once/month

Pornography Statistics (www.covenanteyes.com)

- 9/10 boys, 6/10 girls are exposed to porn before 18 years old
- First exposure for boys is 12 years old
- 15% of boys, 9% of girls have seen child porn
- 32% of boys, 18% girls have seen beasteality online
- Among young adults today, porn use is not the exception, it is the norm

Naomi Wolf

"The young women who talk to me on campuses about the effect of pornography on their intimate lives speak of feeling that they can never measure up, that they can never ask for what they want; and that if they do not offer what porn offers, they cannot expect to hold a guy."

Naomi Wolf

"The young men talk about what it is like to grow up learning about sex from porn, and how it is not helpful to them in trying to figure out how to be with a real

woman...For the first time in human history, the images' power and allure have supplanted that of real naked women. Today, real naked women are just bad porn."

Pornography Statistics (www.covenanteyes.com)

- 67% of college men, 49% of college women believe porn is an acceptable expression of sexuality
- 68% of young men, 18% of young women watch porn at least once per week
- 68% of divorces involve one party meeting another over the internet
- 56% of divorces involve at least one party with an obsessive interest in pornographic websites

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Satan uses the "domino effect" to destroy marriages and then attack the innocent children as their whole worlds are spun wildly out of control, riddled with self-esteem issues, anger, mommy-/daddy-issues, etc.

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Satan HATES Your Household Family

- Media promotes anti-authority-orientation
- Schools normalize premarital and homosexual sex
- Pornography (even in so-called "suitable" TV/movies) destroys sexual intimacy between spouses
- Technology creates "islands" within a household
- "Distance" between spouses promotes infidelities
- Family traditions (eg: eating dinner at a table together) replaced by fast-food, undisciplined structure, etc.

Satan HATES Your Church Family

- The world promotes anti-authority-orientation
- Church leadership utterly failing/leaving ministry to Satan's agents (eg: "coexist", women pastors/evangelists, feminism, homosexual marriage, spiritualism, etc.)
- Churches have become places of big business (selling the Word, massive "love offerings", competitive atmospheres, etc.)
- Rogue Christianity has plundered local assemblies (forsaking assembling, lack of financial support, etc.)

Mt 12:25

And knowing their thoughts Jesus said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and any city or house divided against itself will not stand."

1Co 1:10

Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete

in the same mind and in the same judgment. [aka "unity"]

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God LOVES Families!

You are NEVER alone. God is able. God heals all wounds. God heals sinners and families from the inside-out. Pray. (eg: Isa 41:10; Jer 17:14; 33:6; 1Pe 2:24; Psa 103:2-4; Jam 5:14-16; Psa 147:3, etc.)

Filling of the Spirit

EVERYTHING the Spirit's going to motivate you to think, say, or do is going to be consistent with love.

Commands

Commands ought to be considered as the expressed will of God. In obedience, we will follow His commands, revealing His love in us, but His commands aren't ever meant to spawn religion. His Spirit convicts us to obey (eg: to love).

The Word and the Spirit

It's upon these two fundamental, active gifts that our entire spiritual life is animated (Heb 4:12; Jn 14:16-26).

Heb 4:12

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Jn 14:26

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you."

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