



The Family Friend

A collection of articles and quotes to aid your family in daily living.

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Safer Sex?

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Sexually transmitted diseases plague America and the world. Society has resorted to a new gimmick to fool the ignorant and destroy the simple. Government and public officials supported by some from the medical profession have urged the widespread use of condoms to lessen the spread of these diseases. This is a tacit admission that people are going to engage in promiscuous sexual encounters regardless of the risks involved or the consequences suffered. The real tragedy is that already many have fallen for the deception of Satan, and many more will be slain by their arch enemy. Here are some points worth considering.

FIRST

The assumption that sexual relationships outside of the Divine marriage arrangement are acceptable is a folly of the greatest magnitude. The Bible states the real picture in honest, plain language. "Be not deceived. God is not mocked. For whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who

sows to the Spirit shall from the Spirit reap eternal life" (Galatians 6:7-9, MEV). Homosexuality is a sin (Leviticus 20:13). Adultery is a sin (Exodus 20:14) and whoever commits the same destroys himself (Proverbs 6:32). Fornication is a sin (Galatians 5:19). Bestiality is a sin (Leviticus 20:15-16). Rape is a sin (Deuteronomy 22:25-27). Prostitution is a sin (1 Corinthians 6:15-18). Incest is a sin (1 Corinthians 5). Those who persist in these sins shall not inherit the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Galatians 5:19-21).

SECOND

The concept that one can break the commandments of God with impunity is also a folly of the highest order. No one has ever broken the commandments of God and escaped the guilt and consequences of his or her sin. The Bible records many instances of such by nations and those of individuals. Sodom was destroyed by the cataclysm of heavenly fire for its many sins (Genesis 19). Israel engaged in immorality in Moab and saw 24,000 swept away by a plague (Numbers 25:1-9). David committed adultery and followed it with murder. He and Israel suffered many consequences as a result (2 Samuel 12:7-14). Amnon

raped Tamar and was later murdered by Absalom (2 Samuel 13). You might say that no one has ever broken God's commands — people simply BREAK THEMSELVES ON GOD'S COMMANDS. All the commandments are still here centuries and millenniums after those who did their own thing lie in marked and unmarked tombs around the world.

THIRD

The so-called momentary pleasures of these illicit sexual forays are offset by a life-long sense of a lack of fulfillment. Who can measure the sorrow, heartache, and inner misery that wrenches the souls of the guilty? Who can relate the consequences suffered in every area of life? Those who are honest and bare their souls freely admit that the fear of disease haunts them continually. Such fear often turns them from being happy, open people to recluses who retire within themselves hoping no one will discover them. Others try to put on a front that they are the "real" people of society. But the camouflage is artificial. Those who are unmarried and have been promiscuous do not know what to do. If they tell a prospective marriage partner,

they risk rejection. If they do not tell about their affairs, they always wonder if it will come out after the ceremony. Honesty is a bedrock foundation for a true marriage.

FOURTH

Those who contract disease suffer far more and longer in the body for the illegal momentary gratification of the flesh. Disease knows no boundaries, attacking the single and the married. Fornicators get it. Adulterous mates can and do infect their unsuspecting wives and husbands. Guilt and consequences rage, and families are divided. Those who contract AIDS begin the slow death of the body which houses the anguished soul. The gospel of Jesus Christ can cleanse the soul of the genuine believer who is born again of the water and spirit. Still, the body of death must claim its victim before the threescore and ten years. Innumerable additional cases could be cited of human beings ravaged by fear, pain, sorrow, and death.

The crass stupidity of sinful humans sanctioning and advocating "safer sex" is a paradox. How utterly incomprehensible is the great emphasis on eliminating smoking from commercial aircraft and public buildings, prohibition of nuclear waste and radiation, pollution of air and water, an all-out war on drugs, while simultaneously accelerating the foolish into sexual wreck and ruin. How blind are those who will not see.

THE SOLUTION

Christians should do all in their power to repudiate the "safe sex lie." We must be lights in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation

(Philippians 2:15). Husbands and wives must hold marriage in high esteem before our observing youth. We must portray that which is beautiful, attractive, and pure. We must be models or examples who stand out in direct contrast to the sleazy, corrupt, and deviant behavior blatantly set forth in society and the media. Let us challenge our youth to become a modern generation of Josephs who do not succumb to the peer pressures of a pagan world, but who will stand in God's strength and the power of his might. May their number increase and become legion. Remember, you and God are a majority! As my father said many times, "Do something TODAY you can rejoice about TOMORROW."

The only safe sex is the sex of God's arrangement — holy, pure, beautiful — the physical sexual bond between husband and wife. In that sexual relationship, there are emotional, intellectual, and moral components based on the great spiritual foundation of Jesus Christ. This is the divine way — safe sex, true sex, joyful sex, real sex. Experience Proverbs 5:18–19, whether you have been married one day or fifty years.—via **Does God Exist?**

Family Blessings

By Norman Bales

1. I was born to a couple who honored God.
2. This one is strange and will require some explanation. I was blessed by my grandfather's milk cow. I was born during the Great Depression. My mother could not breast-feed me and so I was started on cow's milk. Unfortu-

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nately, I was unable to tolerate milk from our family cow. My parents had concern for my survival. At length they discovered that I was able to drink milk from my grandfather's cow without any ill effect. They traded cows. I survived, and I'm thankful for the cow.

3. I was reared by parents who taught me to honor and respect God.

4. I had all my needs provided by my parents during the years I was growing up.

5. Jeff and Sarah Williams raised four children, one of who consented to be my wife.

6. I've enjoyed 46 years of marriage with her.

7. We have four wonderful children, who honor God and love us.

8. We have incredible grandchildren.

9. We have positive contact with our children.

10. In our family life together we've cried together, prayed together, struggled through hard times together, laughed together, and had more fun than the law should probably allow.

An unknown author said, "No man ever injured his eyesight by looking on the bright side of things.

I'd like to urge all of our readers to take a few minutes to enumerate some of the positive family blessings in your own lives.

This list is from an article that was written around Thanksgiving Day, but is applicable all year. —LC