



Confronting the Unbelief of Lust

Matthew 5:28–32

Knowing God

A lack of knowledge of God can affect how one controls one's body.

“For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God;” (1 Thess 4:3–5; cf. Gal 4:8–9).

How can someone control one's body in holiness?

3 Points for Escaping Sin

1. God always provides a way of **escape** that the Christian can **endure** (1 Cor 10:12–13).
2. **Replace sin** with good behavior (Eph 4:17–32).
3. **Make no provision** for the flesh (Rom 13:13–14).
For lust, this includes turning to marriage to fulfill sexual desires (1 Cor 7:1–9).

Tempting Desires

How are people **tempted**?

“But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death” (Jas 1:14–15).

Does the world have **an answer** to self-control?

“For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate” (Rom 7:15).

Live according to the Spirit

Why one should **live according to the Spirit?**

“If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live” (Rom 8:11–13).

Freedom from Sin's Death

What must happen for a believer to be free from sin and death in **Romans 6:4–11**:

Unite with Christ in this death by baptism so that you will unite in resurrection like Christ (Rom 6:5).

Crucify the old self to end enslavement to sin (6:6–7).

Christ died to sin and lives for God so you must also consider yourself dead to sin and alive to God (6:10–11).

Offer Body to God

How to offer the members of your body to God according to **Romans 6:12–16**:

Do not let sin reign in your mortal body to obey lusts (Rom 6:12).

Do not present any part of one's body as an instrument of sin (Rom 6:13).

Offer oneself to God as one brought from death to life (Rom 6:13).

The Fruit of Sin

What is **the fruit of sin**?

“For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom 6:20–23).

At Stake

Eternal life is at stake for what you do with your body.

“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food’ — and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?” (1 Cor 6:13–15a).

Sexual sin is a sin against the Christian’s body as a temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 6:18–20).

Lustful Intent

Jesus warned of lust in **Matthew 5:27–30**.

Jesus warned about looking to lust (Matt 5:28).

Those who look to lust commit adultery in the heart (Matt 5:28).

Jesus stressed removing any part one's body rather than the whole body going into Gehenna Hell (Matt 5:29–30).

More about Escaping Sin

4. **Set the mind on the Spirit and walk in the Spirit** (Rom 8:5–6; 12:2; Gal 5:16–17).

5. **Focus on the resurrection of the body to come to life** (Rom 8:5–25; 1 Cor 6:9–20; 1 John 3:2).

6. **The love of Christ controls** believers through the Gospel (2 Cor 5:14–15).

7. Last but not least, **pray** not to enter into temptation (Matt 26:41; Mark 14:38).

Disregarding God

Secular society says that sexual purity and holiness is not significant, because people cannot help their desires.

Those who disregard sexual purity **disregard God.**

“For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you” (1 Thess 4:7–8).

They Shall See God

Will you see God and have eternal life?

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God” (Matt 5:8).

Jesus warned that it is better to lose a part of one’s body than go into Gehenna.

“And Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’” (Acts 2:38).



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