

GOD WANTS YOUR BOD!

I Corinthians 6

*“The world was made for the body, the body
was meant for the soul and the soul
was meant for God”*

-Ancient Proverb

Again Paul is addressing a *specific* cases within the church:
Lawsuits and common sexual practices.

Lawsuits:

- Greek “fondness” for trivial lawsuits (Judge Judy-2000 years old)
- don’t understand your morals, conviction and values judge you?
- Law has a place: matters of abuse & injustice
- Matters of dispute ought to be decided on the value of the Word of God...not the whims of culture
- “Small Tribunal” (verse 2 the word “you”) aren’t there among you those who could
- Verse 5 SomeONE...not even recommending a system but one among you who knows the Word, has the mind of Christ
- We will judge the world...why can’t we make judgments here among one another?
- Judge=evaluate and 5:12 “it is certainly your responsibility to...”
- Exodus 18 Jethro= “it wears the people out too, not just the leader” (develop a system)
- Why not be willing to be hurt in order to give love and forgiveness a chance? (Joseph waited 30 years before 50:20)
- Are those in culture the ones you really look to for tips
- Not referring to those outside the body...(specific here someone is cheating or taking advantage of =condescension)
- You were cleansed-so don’t act like an uncleansed person

Sexual Practices:

- Theology of convenience
 - **Greek thought**: “body needs food AND needs sex”: they said the two are **inseparable**...BUT they also said the spirit, soul and body were **separate** and the Gnostics =can do as it pleases. It’s a “slave” to food and sex...feed it!
 - **Hebrew thought**: Paul uses Greek words to move them toward a Biblical understanding of the body (Ro 12 offer as a sacrifice, the body gets resurrected).

Q: Would you take Jesus to strip club and hire him an escort for the evening?

American culture is more influenced by Greek thought than Hebrew thought

- Greek...I’m saved but my body can’t say no
- Hebrew...offer your body a living sacrifice
- I’m owned...therefore wherever I am, there Jesus is! (tattoo...property of Jesus)
- How many times can you become one with someone before you begin to divide?
- **God wants your Bod!** (and your heart and mind and...)
- All of you is saved, transformed and sins

Run away, run away! (verse 18)

- Feugete= (present imperative) do it now, without delay
- Why run? Because it will catch you if you walk!
- They were dealing with STD’s!
- Apaphroditus= worship was having sex with temple prostitutes = consecration versus desecration

Bottom Line: Our bodies are the Temple of the Holy Spirit

- We are important so don’t allow people who don’t share your values settle disputes
- Our bodies can’t be separated out...we bring all of us to Jesus and it is with all of us that we serve Jesus
- Wherever we go, there Jesus is
- God wants your soul, but He wants your body too!

Q: How did they do with this instruction from Paul?

(see II Corinthians 12:21)

- Between 2005 and 2006, the number of reported P&S syphilis cases increased 11.8 percent. P&S rates have increased in males each year between 2000 and 2006 and among females between 2004 and 2006. In 2006, 64% of the reported P&S syphilis cases were among men who have sex with men (MSM). (CDC)