

Why Americans Are Tossing Aside God's Design for Sex

Our porn-saturated society continues to redefine what sex and intimacy look like. The traditional, biblical values of older generations are being thrown aside as culture embraces sexual freedom and an "anything goes" attitude. Today, as long as adults consent, it seems nothing is taboo.

For example, on March 25, Utah Governor Gary Herbert signed a bill that decriminalizes sodomy and adultery among consenting adults. Another bill that would repeal the crime of fornication (sex outside of marriage) awaits Governor Herbert's signature to become law.

Pastor and author Paul David Tripp said, "Few areas of the human struggle reveal more powerfully the sad sinfulness of sin than the sex evils that are done to people and through people hundreds of thousands of times a day."

But God has a different plan for His people: a plan based on mutual satisfaction, both physical and emotional connections, and respect and commitment to each other. And since He created sex and instituted marriage, maybe we should listen to what He says about them.

The Sacred Covenant of Marriage

God's plan is for one woman and one man to be sexually active only within the bounds of marriage. Today's culture keeps drifting farther from that view. But godly men stand firm to their marriage covenant.

In the Bible, Hosea demonstrated his commitment to his wife, Gomer, who was a prostitute before they married. They had a son, but soon after, Gomer returned to her old ways. They had two more children, but Hosea was uncertain if he was the

father.

Eventually, Gomer's lovers decided to sell her as a slave. Despite all the heartache she had caused him, Hosea paid the redemption price to reclaim his wife. That's the type of personal sacrifice and total love that God has for us! He also calls us as men to live out that love in our marriages.

As Paul wrote, "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it" (Eph. 5:25).

Lust Only Destroys

Jesus was very specific about lust: