"Aim to Please" (3)

"So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him."

(2 Corinthians 5:9)

Aiming to Please? Do the Opposite of These \downarrow

1 Corinthians 10:1-12-(1) "I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, (2) and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, (3) and all ate the same spiritual food, (4) and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. (5) Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown (katastronnymi) in the wilderness. (6) Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. (7) Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.' (8) We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. (9) We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, (10) nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. (11) Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. (12) Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall."

Strangled by Sexual Sin

<u>1 Corinthians 10:8</u> – "We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day."

Hebrews 12:16-17 – (16) "Lest there be any fornicator (pornos), or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. (17) For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears." (KJV)

Key Point: Don't Sell Yourself Short via Sexual Sin

The Love / Lust Dichotomy

Love - Eternal Value / Lust - Temporary

Love – Giving & Receiving / Lust – Consuming & Losing

Love – Seeks to Bless God & Others / Lust – God & Others are Expendable

Love – Liberating / Lust – Bondage

Love – The Law of God's Kingdom / Lust – The Principle of the World

Seducing Spirits

Revelation 2:20 – "But I have this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and seducing my servants to practice sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols."

<u>2 Peter 2:1-2, 18-19</u> — (1) "But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. (2) <u>And many will follow their sensuality</u>, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. (18) For, speaking loud boasts of folly, <u>they entice by sensual passions</u> of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error. (19) They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved."

Pervasive Perversion

Revelation 17:1-2, 4, 18:3-4 – (1) "Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, 'Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, (2) with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk.' (4) The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality.

(3) For all nations have drunk the wine of the passion of her <u>sexual immorality</u>, and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living. (4) Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, 'Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues'"

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message? Am I tolerating sexual sin in my life? (1 Cor. 5:1-2, 6:18-20, 1 Thes. 4:3-8)

What are we to do with the weights and sin that besets us? (Heb. 12:1; Col. 3:5-10; 1 John 1:9)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)