

Is adultery wrong?

adultery, wrong

The Bible talks many times about sexual morality. To better focus on adultery, I will state the Bible's common teachings on sex.

God created sexuality as good, beautiful, and sacred.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:27)

The basic social union is the family of male and female. Only male and female can increase and multiply.

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." (Genesis 2:18)

People are not designed to live in solitary isolation; they are designed to live in relationship with others. The most fundamental social relationship is the marriage of a man and a woman. Here, the Bible says that it is a woman who is "fit for him."

Therefore, a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (Genesis 2:24)

Female is a helper "fit for man." So the family is male and female. They become one. The design of the family as male and female is good, making them similar to God. No other family makeup is given, only male and female.

Another aspect of marriage of man and wife is that their union should last a lifetime.

He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery." (Mark 10:11-12)

The Bible frequently repeats this commandment about sexual activity: only in the marriage of husband and wife should sexual activities be enjoyed. All other sex is sinful. Premarital sex is a sin. Male prostitution and female prostitution are both sinful. Any sexual activity with someone not your spouse is the sin of adultery. All heterosexual sexual activity is sin except that between husband and wife. The Bible is very clear and firm on this: sexual activities are strictly limited to marriage. All other sexual activities are sinful.

Avoiding adultery is very important. Unrepented adultery will keep one out of heaven.

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. (1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

Here are a few statements about adultery.

But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. (Matthew 5:28)

He who commits adultery lacks sense; he who does it destroys himself. He will get wounds and dishonor, and his disgrace will not be wiped away. (Proverbs 6:32-33)

You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.' " (Mark 10:19)

Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress. (Romans 7:3)

Behold, I will throw her onto a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her I will throw into great tribulation, unless they repent of her works, (Revelation 2:22)

If a man commits adultery with the wife of his neighbor, both the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death. (Leviticus 20:10)

I end with this poem.

Warnings Against Adultery

23 For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light,
and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life,
24 to preserve you from the evil woman,
from the smooth tongue of the adulteress.
25 Do not desire her beauty in your heart,
and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes;
26 for the price of a prostitute is only a loaf of bread,
but a married woman hunts down a precious life.
27 Can a man carry fire next to his chest
and his clothes not be burned?
28 Or can one walk on hot coals
and his feet not be scorched?
29 So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife;
none who touches her will go unpunished.
(Proverbs 6:23-29)

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