



Series: Stewardship

Sunday, April 03, 2011

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PART VI: OUR BODIES BELONG TO THE LORD!

SCRIPTURE: 1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20

key theme: Since our bodies belong to the Lord, we must continually surrender our physical body, its desires, appetites, and strength, to the Lord and make healthy choices that honor God.

- 1) **While we often see the spiritual/physical duality of man, God desires to sanctify all of parts of mankind for His glory.**
 - a. While all moral things may be permissible, not all of these things are beneficial when they cause our bodies to be used outside of God's design.
 - b. The Lord gives us physical bodies to be used for his glory. Just because our bodies belong to the Lord doesn't mean that He doesn't want us to enjoy our bodies, rather, He wants us to enjoy it in the context of His divine design.
- 2) **Why does God care about our physical bodies?**
 - a. Our physical bodies will be resurrected into new incorruptible bodies, which will bear our unique identity, but have no deformities, disease, or aging.
 - b. The fall of mankind was both physical and spiritual death but salvation restores both arenas, the fullness of which is to come at the Lord's return.
 - c. Our bodies are a temple of the Holy Spirit, which means that we must use our bodies to serve God's purposes, rather than for service to ourselves and the sinful nature.
- 3) **How do we honor and exhibit proper stewardship over our physical bodies?**
 - a. We cannot let our physical desires have mastery over us. All things *are in my power*, but I will not be *brought under the power of any* of them.
 - b. Our bodies must reflect true ownership by God and not be casually united with those things that destroy it or cause decay
 - c. Our bodies must be used as instruments to reflect God's glory in the earth. Ask yourself how your body and strength can be used increase God's glory in the earth.
 - d. We must consider the impact of how we treat our bodies on our earthly and eternal purpose.

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