

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

Love that Crushes Lust

Speaker:

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Date:

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Scriptures:

Proverbs 6:20-35

Theme: Love the Lord obediently and kill your lusts.

Introduction: In *The Great Divorce*, CS Lewis portrays how lust can gain a grip on our hearts as it whispers lies in our ears. Our sin-stained hearts are easily captured by the promises of pleasure that lust offers. When it comes to battling lust, the temptation can be to downplay or minimize its impact, and so to seek a way to compromise or accommodate to it. However, the Lord calls us to kill our lusts and obey him at all times.

We can unpack the father's instructions to his son under 3 points:

1. The gain and glory of obedience (20-24)

The father calls his son to keep his commandments. He is not rebuking or correcting his son, but instructing him and warning him against evil.

The father's commands serve as a guide (lead you), protection (watch over you), and as counsel (talk with you). God's word fills all these roles.

God's word is also a light: making plain our path and teaching us where to walk in God's world. It clarifies and instructs us.

The father warns against the evil woman, the adulteress. Her flattery is deadly.

2. The destruction of joining with evil (25-29)

The father commands his son not to sin actively (do not desire) or passively (do not let her). He must resist adultery.

The problem with the adulteress is that she uses the beauty God has given her for her own selfish purposes. She uses it to gain power over others.

The father warns his son strongly that to give in to the adulteress is to be a fool.

Instead, he needs to exercise self-control so that he can be grateful and walk in gratitude and faith.

Ingratitude is a fruit of pride which does not acknowledge either our sinfulness or the many ways that God shows his kindness toward us.

3. The utter ruin of relenting (30-35)

The father closes by warning his son of the fate of the one who obeys the adulteress. He uses a comparison: people may understand and pity a thief; but they will not allow him to go unpunished. The adulterer, on the other hand, is not even pitied. He is to be despised and punished.

The jealousy of the adulteress' husband is a picture of God's jealousy toward us (Exod 20:5; 34:14). He demands and deserves our whole-hearted love and obedience.

Questions:

1. How does lust entice you to do evil? Are you stuck in sin?
2. How grateful are you? How content?
3. Do you love God and his law? How are you pursuing growth in his word?