

of bread; and an adulteress will prey upon his precious life...So is he who goes in to his neighbour's wife; whoever touches her shall not be innocent ... Whoever commits adultery with a woman lacks understanding; he who does so destroys his own soul." (6:23, 32)

"...For a harlot is a deep pit, and a seductress is a narrow well. She also lies in wait as for a victim, and increases the unfaithful among men." (23:26)

Proverbs 6:27: **Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?** The proverb asks a simple question: you know the obvious answer. **A rhetorical question is a powerful tool of persuasive reasoning.** You have no doubt as you visualize a man embracing fire in his bosom – his clothes will surely be burned! The image is to be transferred to adultery – the man holding another man's wife will be burned just as surely! He will suffer severe & sure consequences for violating another man's marriage.

You know the answer to the proverb, and you know its application. But many lie about this obvious lesson! Hollywood sells movies by appealing to sexual lusts and fantasies, so they **never show the consequences** of adultery; instead they work it into most every movie they produce. They want you to believe that fire will not burn your clothes. They are greedy liars directed by the devil to satisfy lusts to fill their covetous purses.

Some "psychologists" say an affair can enhance marriage. The music industry by lifestyle & lyrics suggest it as the only exciting love. Soap operas would not exist without it. Romance novels create lustful fantasies for it. Nightclubs make a place to get it started. Euphemisms like "having an affair," "having a lover," or "playing around" hide its consequences. They lie! Adultery will hurt you as surely as fire will burn clothes! Run!

Many are horribly burned by predatory "lovers" who play them just for sex. Once these types of players start to tire of you (**and they will tire of you**), they will then trade you in for their next new conquest, and you will be left with either broken hopes & dreams if you are not married, or your own marriage will be left in a state of total shambles.

Parties: The environment that is most conducive to illicit sex is the party. Parties & its after-effects on society are so damaging it's a

wonder how it has not been outlawed. Did Jesus, Muhammad (p) give their blessings to "parties"? This is a social invention of godless people. Testimony to the degraded nature of our thinking. The office party has become an institutionalized occasion for lust. As the girls sway your eyes seek out the most sensual. Drinking in her movements which are a simulation of sex. Alcoholic drinks cause license to rule & dignity to evaporate. Brains become befuddled, souls burn & hearts are restless. In that corner a man reveals the secrets of his love for a girl, proud of her exposed beauty. Over there a young man arranges sweet words & subtle hints in his mind as he prepares to talk to a beautiful girl, dressed more in skin than clothing.

An old man asks for songs that remind him of his frivolous youth, with his heart breaking as he eyes the young maidens. Look a woman winks at a man, beckoning to him, but he looks with lust at another. A wife whose husband is drunk finds a chance to sell her favours to her adulterous lover. Men leverage for a glimpse of exposed cleavage. All are drowning in a sea of sinful flirtations. Marilyn Monroe, America's party queen & sex goddess (what an obnoxious title) said: **"I hate every man that slept with me."** Realization that came too late. Elvis Presley, America's party king, was totally confused as to the meaning of life. Used to visit the morgue seeking life in death. Both committed suicide. A pity. But even more mysterious is the fact that they are both portrayed as role models. Figure out your motives as you plan for that party. A few careless moments is all it takes to cause a lifetime of regrets. Regrets **cannot** be cured by prescription drugs. Regrets destroy body & soul.

Gia had it, whatever **"it"** is. One of the world's top models at 19. She appeared on scores of glitzy front covers from Vogue to Cosmopolitan. Roamed in France, Italy, Morocco & the Caribbean. Lived in the speedy lane of high fashion & the highwire nightlife at Studio 54. First came cocaine, then heroin, and finally AIDS. She died in 1986 at the age of 26. She struggled with her mother & despite many sexual liaisons, she **never** found love. Wild, loose sex never brings true joy & satisfaction. Besides leading to an early grave, take heed of eternal damnation, couched in the commandment "Thou shall **not** commit adultery."

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus equated lust to ADULTERY!: "But I tell you that anyone who looks at someone lustfully has already committed ADULTERY with them in their heart." So the "key does **not** have to enter the keyhole"...it starts with the lustful look. **More adultery is committed before the TV & monitor than anywhere else!** In regard to food we have restraints of three kinds, those of law, those of manners, and those of health. We regard it as wrong to steal food, to take more than our share at a common meal, and to eat in ways that are likely to make us ill. Restraints of a similar kind are essential where sex is concerned.

Sexual temptations dominate. The cure is spiritual knowledge. The Prophet's warning: "Avoid adultery for it has six effects; of these, three are experienced in this world & the other three in the Hereafter." The three experienced in this world are: 1. Light vanishes from the faces of the adulterers. 2. It brings poverty, shame & famine. 3. Your life span is reduced. The three experienced in the Hereafter are: 1. The adulterers face God's ferocious anger. 2. They will be subjected to a strict reckoning. 3. They will be cast into Hell.

Look at the faces of those sports personalities, "superstars" & politicians who commit adultery. There you will see the perfect example of the **"vanished light from the face."** Why are you so afraid to look in the mirror? The darkness that looks back is so frighteningly grotesque! Be careful how you swing your golf club; be careful who plays on your wicket. The attendant torments & regrets are a literal hell. The burnings can be doused by the waters of repentance. But why take the risk? Why enter such a hell, the edge of numbing darkness? Most people wouldn't venture into adultery if they were informed as to the magnitude of damage it can cause. It's not about two people. It's about many people including children. The legacy of adultery may affect those not even born at the time of the affair. You can't get happiness at the expense of others. You can't get it by running from yourself.

"The mouth of an immoral woman is a deep pit." (Proverbs 22:14)

**No sugar-coated words:
Sex is only to be indulged in marriage.
It is an act of responsibility.**

THE ULTIMATE BETRAYAL
NO JOY...JUST HURTFUL CONSEQUENCES

ADULTERY

IT OCCURS IN THE HEAD BEFORE IT OCCURS IN THE BED

"When our civilization is indeed tottering on the verge of collapse we see that in fact the last decades have been marked by a choice of license for both sexes **RATHER** than discipline. The result has been an enormous waste of creative power. The pleasure of adultery lasts seconds, minutes, or hours; **but the consequences last years, the rest of your life, or all eternity.** There is no comparison.

Pornography, prostitution, fornication & adultery, combined with the prevention of conception...represent to us the unwholesome swamp into which the water of energy have flowed. Is this a symptom or a cause of our collapse? Both, I think." (Sex & Commonsense) The sin of adultery is **not** so much about the sex, it is the deceit & lies which must be told to perpetuate it & that is the real damage. To look at your spouse with a straight face & say you are going shopping while meeting someone in a hotel is so unnerving & hurtful. **DECEIT**... Can adultery kill you? Yes! **There are many ways to die.** Think of a destroyed soul, ruined reputation, lost job, wasted money, violated marriage, offended children, illegitimate children, painful guilt, sexual bondage, hated memories & other living deaths! Even the world knows to blame the **wasted & worn-out look** of sinners on their hard living! A double life is exhausting. The weight of carrying on that deception is unbearable.

Working Late, huh?

Beware Adultery is an **IMAGE of Hell**

“And those who commit **illegal** sexual intercourse shall receive the punishment. The **torment** will be **doubled** to them on the Day of Resurrection, and they will abide therein in **disgrace**.”

Adultery is the **vice of equivocation**. It is **not** marriage but a **mockery** of it, a merging that mixes love & dread together like jackstraws. There is no understanding of contentment in adultery. You belong to each other in what together you’ve made of a third identity that almost immediately cancels your own. There is a law in art that proves it. Two colours are proven complimentary only when forming that most **desolate of all colours** – neutral gray.

We live in an adulterous age. We live in an age when promises & faithfulness, the hard work of fidelity, to values, to the moral life, seem secondary to the **drive to attain fleeting scraps of pleasure**. The consequences of adultery, to the lovers, or to those born from the union, are often disastrous. From the Bible & Quran to the works of Shakespeare & Tolstoy, there is a consistent warning against this form of deception that plays with the deepest, most intimate connections of humans. Adulterers are thrust into a life of deceit. Children born of affairs, grow up with feelings of rejection & inadequacy. Lies, as any affair goes on, pile one on top of the other. **It is morally corrosive**.

Adultery/fornication are sexual engagements that dominate movies, magazines,

music, videos, the Net. The problems that it spawns are beyond repair but yet it is glamourized. Most societies have been so desensitized by **internet porn** that adultery has become an accepted thing. Gene Simmons of the perverted rock band Kiss brags that he has had sex with over 4,600 women in his devilish career. Girls sleeping with a “star” are just stupid. “Star?” How bright do you have to be to write songs about sex, alcohol & partying?

When you get married you vow to FORSAKE all others. That means you have reserved the intimacy space of the marriage relationship EXCLUSIVELY for the person you married. Anytime you put another person in that relational space promised to your partner – be it sexual or emotional or both – you have committed adultery. Anytime a married person makes “romantic” comments (Ure hot!!!) of a stranger on Facebook it’s adultery. Searing pain, horrendous crisis, death sentence to your marriage...

You probably won’t hear many sermons about adultery, and it is easy to understand why. The preacher is either “preaching to the choir,” or preaching to people who don’t want to be reminded of their sins.

Sex is natural. It touches us all and we have made rather a mess of it! We want to know why, and we want to do better. We are beginning to understand that this instinct of sex which has been so great a cause of suffering & shame and has been treated as a subject fit only for furtive whispers or silly jokes, is in fact one of the greatest powers in human nature, and that its misuse is indeed **“the expense of spirit in a waste of shame.”** Sex is not a dirty. It can only be realized by remembering that the corruption of the best is the worst, and that we can measure by the hideousness of debased & depraved sexuality, the greatness & the wonder of God’s legal sex love.

Illicit sex always offer the promise of excitement, maybe even of fulfillment, & holds out the possibility of satisfaction in **unsatisfactory** lives. Our urges can overpower our mind & our heart. We are unsteady, tipped off balance. We act impulsively, throwing us at first into a frenzy of excitement & then into a free fall until the object of desire becomes tawdry, stale and even repugnant. It is not what we

want after all, not what we are really seeking. The lover will be found not to be **that hot** but Hell is **that hot**. The allure of adultery is that it kindles passions that routine & familiarity leaves blunted. This allure is the staple of the entertainment & ad industries. Two exceedingly evil industries. It is fed to us in a steady stream that flows onto our computer monitors, TVs, looks out at us from glossy magazines & billboards. It is the deep destructive power of illicit sexual attraction.

Payment for such a favour is sinful. Deviant. But there are other ways down this slippery path.

A man, suddenly at mid-life, realizes the futility of his “busy” life. He is at a loss to make a change. He does not know anything else. Lonely & depressed, he is especially vulnerable. It’s not hard to imagine what happens next. He becomes friendly with a neighbour, “friend” or someone with a sympathetic ear. Or an estranged wife! Her inner emptiness mirrors his own, and, almost without realizing it, an emotional bond is formed. For the first time in longer than he can remember, he feels “alive.” Here’s a woman who appreciates him as a man, as a person. She listens to him and really cares about the things he’s feeling.

At this point he probably would be shocked if someone suggested he was well on his way to having an affair. He’s never allowed that thought to enter his mind – well, almost never. Dr. Carlfred Broderick: “I am convinced that more people get themselves into the pain of infidelity through empathy, concern & compassion than through any base motive. The world is full of lonely & vulnerable people, hungry for a sympathetic ear & a shoulder to cry on. With a little help from rationalization, the sympathy leads smoothly into tenderness, the tenderness to the need for privacy, the privacy to physical consolation, and the consolation straight to bed.”

The **need for emotional intimacy** is one of the greatest reasons for the affair. Affairs begin not just for sexual reasons but to satisfy the basic need we all have for closeness, goodness, kindness, togetherness. When these needs are not met on a regular basis in a marriage, the motivation may be to find a person who will be good to us, touch us, hold us, give us a feeling of closeness. Sexual fulfillment may indeed become an

important part of an extramarital relationship, but the closeness needs are initially more important.

It is way too EASY to get snared by the Internet & the beckoning chat forums & social media. *Facebook Infidelity Almost Triples Sales of Digital Surveillance Tools*. The reason for this **huge increase** in the demand of digital spying software indicates that married couples believe that their partners are involved in digital infidelity. Psychologists believe that one of the primary causes of this fear & insecurity is Facebook. This site has opened up avenues of digital/emotional cheating that were unimaginable a few years back. Online affairs always start as friendships. They change when you begin to share marital problems with each other (**as is apt to happen**). It’s easy to become vulnerable to another person telling you what you want to hear ... replacing them for your spouse as your friend. Even if you never physically see each other during the period the “chats” take place, **it is adultery**. A marriage is built on trust, honesty, the real action of love, & mutual respect. All of these things are **violated in secret chats**.

When we sacrifice “family” for other things we are setting ourselves up for some devastating losses in our personal lives. Even if we never have an affair or we have one but our spouse never finds out, we are still the losers. Most marriages that fail never end up in the divorce court. What good is a family if you’re not a “family”? Marriage requires time, tenderness, caring, communication & closeness. Are you living the kind of life that will leave you fulfilled when you near the end of your earthly existence? No one has ever said on their deathbed: **“I wish I had spent more time on my business.”** Are you investing time, love and energy in your family? Do they get priority time or just the scraps you have left after giving your “best” in the marketplace? Then if such is your scenario be prepared that your spouse’s needs will drift...evil will begin to dine on their soul.

The Biblical Warnings (Proverbs):
“For by means of a harlot a man is reduced to a crust

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Come not near unto **ILLICIT SEX** **It is an abomination & an evil way**

THE QURAN: (17:32)