

**Intro:**

Chapter 18: sexual sins “devolve” into horrendous ones.

Main Point of Text: The final laws about sexual relations warn of society’s *natural* devolution into *unnatural* behavior.

Sermon Point: *Sexual Sins Always Sink Lower.*

**Move 1: *Sexual sins will lead to the sacrifice of God’s image in mankind.***

Vs. 23: abandonment of *human relations* (species)! *Bestiality* (See also Ex. 22:19; Lev. 20:12, 15-16; Deut. 27:21). Lit., “not give your copulation” (like vss. 20-21, “seed”). Humanity is the image of God (Gen. 1:26-27; 9:6), reflecting His moral rationality (Eph. 4:24; Col. 3:10): diminishes this as sexual sins increase in acting like animals. Emphasized as more heinous: “it is confusion!” Confuses animals too: lit., “woman not stand before beast”, as Egyptian worship of goat gods (Lev. 17:7). Jude 1:10-11; 2 Pet. 2:12.

**Move 2: *Sexual sins will lead to the sacrifice of producing children.***

Vs. 22: abandoning of *sex relations* (gender)! *Homosexuality*: common practice in ancient pagan temples. Emphasized as more heinous: “it is abomination” (detestable, offensive)! (See also Lev. 20:13; Judges 19:22; 1 Kg. 14:24). This crime against listed between bestiality/sacrificing children to idols. Gen. 19:5-8. Rom. 1:24-27. 1 Tim. 1:9-10: ... *the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane ... For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind* ... Creation/redemptive ordinance can’t be fulfilled (Gen. 1:21, 28; 9:1, 7).

**Move 3: *Sexual sins will lead to the sacrifice of the lives of our own children.***

Vs. 21: abandoning of *family relations* (children)! *Infanticide*. Molech was a false Canaanite god related to they worshipped by the sacrifice of their children on the burning outstretched arms of his brazen statue. Constant problem in Canaan/Israel! (See Lev. 20:2-3; Deut. 12:31; 18:10; 1 Kg 11:7; 2 Kg. 3:27; 16:3; 17:17; 21:6; 2 Chron. 28:3; 33:6; Isa. 57:5; Jer. 7:31; 19:5; 32:35; Ezek. 16:20; 20:31; 23:37; Amos 5:26; Acts 7:43). Some argue passing through the fire here not yet literal, but ritual. Either way, they offered their covenant children to the world’s idols so as to “profane the name of your God, I am the LORD”. God stakes His name on His Church: taking Christ’s name in vain raising covenant children returns to us. Ps. 106:37-42.

**Conclusion:**

1 Cor. 3:17; 1 Cor. 6:9-10.

*Sexual Sins Always Sink Lower.*