

# *Corruptible Man*

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1 Corinthians 15:53-54 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

Romans 1:23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

Genesis 6:11-12 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

I. Sinful man is corruptible – he corrupts himself and all that that God gives him.

## **Webster's 1828 Dictionary**

CORRUPT, v.t. *L.*, to *break*. Literally, to break, separate or dissolve. Hence,

1. To change from a sound to a putrid or putrescent state; to separate the component parts of a body, as by a natural process, which accompanied by a fetid smell.

2. To defile or pollute. Exodus 32.

3. To entice from good and allure to evil. 2 Corinthians 11.

4. To debase or render impure, by alterations or innovations; as, to corrupt language.

5. To pervert; to falsify; to infect with errors; as, to corrupt the sacred text.

- A. Think of all that God has given man as blessings to enjoy, to enrich his life, expand his mind, to fill him with joy, and to give finite man a view of the infinite.
  - 1. And then consider how man corrupts and spoils every blessing and every gift from God.
  - 2. Think about how he takes what God gives him to make life better and uses it to make life more miserable.

II. God's many blessings include:

- A. The Word of God that contain God's promises to man and his warnings about sin.
  - 1. We make hundreds and thousands of different "versions" of it by changing the words and adding and subtracting words to suit ourselves and to justify our sin, and to maintain the lies of Satan.
- B. The virgin birth, the sinless life, the substitutionary death, and the resurrection of his only begotten Son to atone for our sins and reconcile us to the Father, and make us holy and pure in this present evil world.
  - 1. We turn his birth into a celebration of covetousness; his sinless life into a life of lies and fantasy, and even fornication; his resurrection into a celebration of immorality and debauchery (Mardi Gras, Carnival, etc.); and his great sacrifice into a license to keep living in sin.
- C. The perfect order of his creation, which includes the fact that He made us male and female so that we can love and enjoy one another in so many ways that make life so much richer and blessed, and to give us a clearer understanding of his love

for us and how He desires for us to love Him. (Husband-wife, father-mother, brother-sister, etc.)

1. We have decreed marriage to be meaningless; and turned the whole matter of male and female into a pursuit of selfishness and lust.
  2. Men and women have so corrupted this matter that many now consider gender a matter of choice instead of a fact of nature.
- D. God gives us children to raise up for a testimony to the next two or three generations after we are gone, and to reveal to our hearts a little bit of how God loves us as his children, made in his own image and likeness.
1. People count them as a nuisance and a problem and a hindrance to their own happiness. (Blessed is the barren womb...)
  2. We allow their minds to be filled with the world and its philosophies, lusts, and insanity by our example and our indulgence in it ourselves.
  3. So the children God gives us turn out many times joining the devil's hordes and becoming the enemies of God and a shame and a curse to our life.
- E. God created and designed music into his creation and it serves as a way for us to feel and express things that words cannot convey, including worship to the God who created us and loves us.
1. Music has been used to sing the praises of sin and to mourn its consequences – that is mostly country music.
  2. Music has been used to stir up anger, rebellion, lusts, and hatred – that is mostly rock music.
  3. Music is practically gone from our culture now; it has devolved from melody, harmony, and rhythm to simply noise, that is either meaningless, violent, unnerving, and that drives people insane. (The military and police actually use it to torture people and make them give themselves up)
  4. Music has been corrupted by corruptible man just like every other good thing that God has given him.
- F. Food that not only sustains our earthy lives, gives us strength and health, but is an extra pleasure for us to enjoy.
1. We prefer what WE have made to what GOD has made.
  2. We have taken out the good and put in the bad to suit our tastes better.
  3. We have corrupted our food and we are paying the price.
- G. Herbs for the service of man to heal, to flavor our food, to cure diseases, and to sooth our physical pain.
1. What God meant for good we have turned into dirty vices, such as smoking tobacco, or mind-altering pastimes such as smoking marijuana.
  2. We make concoctions to please evil spirits rather than to promote health and strength in the body. (this is witchcraft, or sorcery.
- H. Many years to live and avail ourselves of his mercy and patience in waiting for us to come to Him in repentance and faith.
1. We squander the days of our lives in worldly pleasures, vanity, and pride until we have nothing left to give to God.
- I. Man in his unregenerate state is in rebellion against his Maker and determined to corrupt all that God is and has made.
- III. One of the works done in the soul by the atonement for sin provided by Christ is that this rebellion against God and this self-destructive madness is done away with.

- A. Instead of death staring us in the face all our life, we have eternal life staring us in the face.
  - 1. So instead of living in the stench of death and corruption we live in the fragrance of eternal joy and happiness.
- B. Instead of feeding on the death and corruption around us in this world we are sustained by the heavenly manna.
  - 1. Our soul has meat to eat that others know nothing about.
  - 2. The rotten meat of the world no longer appeals to our soul.
- C. Instead of being used to the stink we can tell the great difference now between the clean and the unclean and we cannot tolerate the unclean anymore.
  - 1. Surely we know from observing that people get used to living in filth and they come to a point where they do not care.
  - 2. Salvation deals with this blindness and corruption.
- D. Instead of handling the blessings of God carelessly and ruining them we are careful to maintain them and squeeze all the good out of them we can.
- E. We are careful about the corruption of the world around us and take precautions to keep it from polluting our mind, our heart, and our body, as well as our marriage, our children, and our church.
- F. We desire to be pure and clean in heart, conscience, mind, and body.
- G. That desire causes us to live differently and to do something about the corruption that we are surrounded with here.
- H. Is it possible to be pure in a world such as this?
  - 1. It is not only possible, but it is a sure thing if we are born of God and have our names written in heaven.

2 Peter 1:3-4 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

1 Peter 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

1 Peter 3:3-4 Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

Psalm 24:3-4 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Revelation 21:27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

- I. As long as we live in this corrupted world we must bathe often.

Ephesians 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; **That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word**, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

- IV. We must focus on our mind, our heart, and our conscience to be pure.
- A. If our mind is pure our heart will be pure.
  - B. If our mind and heart are pure our conscience will be pure.
  - C. We can do something to keep our minds pure.
    - 1. We can watch the gates.
    - 2. We can do better than watch just the gates, we can put guards out past the gates so that the enemy does not approach that close.
    - 3. We can put guards within by filling our mind and thoughts with thoughts that replace and drive out thoughts that would corrupt.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

- D. Our heart will be pure when our mind is stayed on Christ and we are not double-minded.

James 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

1 John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

- E. If our mind is distracted by the world and we allow its input into our mind, our heart will be affected and will develop a love for the things of the world.
  - 1. This is corruption and means that our mind and heart are not pure.
- F. This defiles our conscience, also, which takes away joy, peace, and hope.

- V. So a major work of the grace of God is to make us pure in this present evil world.

Titus 2:11-12 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

1 Timothy 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

1 Timothy 5:22 Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

- A. Just because everything around us is filthy and polluted and corrupt does not mean that we have to be that way, also.

Jude 21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude 24-25 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.