



# THE CHALLENGER

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PROCLAIMING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

January 2008

## Let's Talk about Sex

BY THE EDITOR

**P**REACHER PORTER, are you sure this subject matter should be discussed?

Well, nearly everyone else is glamorizing and discussing it. Television, Hollywood, and the Internet are directly involved in its promotion. How sad to realize this most wonderful intimate relationship between a husband and wife is being twisted and promoted to be for everyone, independent of God's sacred institution. "Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled; but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4).

Sexual addiction is the product of evil men wanting to make more money. I do not need higher education for this fact. This is true of all addictions, including sex. Nothing else compares to pornography, not only in its multimillion dollar profit, but also in its paralyzing effect upon the beholder. The greatest potential for this damnable promotion is the Internet. They saw and conquered!

### The Only Way

For those enslaved with this addiction, their only hope of staying away or getting out of its clutches is the power of the Word of God. In His earlier days, Solomon intimately understood how great sexual temptation can be for a young man. If not under control, it can ruin his entire life and the lives of others through him. "My son, give attention to my wisdom . . . for the lips of an adulteress drip honey and smoother than oil is her speech" (Proverbs 3:1-3). Young people must be prepared ahead of time. This is also true of adults; for there is a Delilah in every bar, school, church, workplace, movie, nightclub, cruise, and other entertainments. They turn their victims into whoremongers.

### Today's Only Hope

Is it in our secular educational system? Pornography produces sexual predators. Should we lock up all first-time offenders? We better make some changes soon, for they continue to murder our young ladies and children. The Scriptures are the Lord's thinking and perspectives. As a man continually immerses himself in God's Word, he will take on the Lord's mindset toward every subject. He will be given a spiritual insight into the power of temptation and its working process. Understanding will be given about the deception that accompanies all sexual temptations. Set the Bible aside and the smoothness of honey flows. "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer" (Psalm 19:14).

A wise man, who is fortified with the Word, sees the evil damnation behind this intoxicating temptation. Sin is rebellion against God. Joseph knew all about this when Potipher's wife arranged for them to be alone and asked him to join her in bed. (Some

of you just woke up!) Hear his refusal: "But he refused, and said to his master's wife, Behold my master knew not what is with me in the house, and has committed all that he has to my hand. There is none greater in this house than I; neither has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife; how can I DO THIS GREAT WICKEDNESS AND SIN AGAINST GOD? And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled and got him out" (Genesis 39:8,9,12).

We learn a great deal from this story. She solicited him to be with her for many days. (Some of readers would not have resisted the third time.) He recognized the act of adultery as great wickedness, a sin against God. This meant that God knew all about it. One of the greatest lies of sex sins is that no one else will know. His action was to depart. Oh, the supposed flattery of being desired by someone else. Any question as to why God gave favor to Joseph among the leaders of Egypt? (Genesis 39:21) Joseph had a resistance to sex sins in recognition of his God. Are today's children a reproduction of their parents? They know where mom and dad stand. Leave your Bible closed on the shelf and notice the standard of entertainment the family maintains. "Where with all shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to Your word. Your word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against you" (Psalm 119:9,11). "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted Word, which is able to

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## Let's Talk about Sex (continued from page 1)

save your souls" (James 1:21). "That He might sanctify and cleanse it (the Church) with the washing of water by the word" (Ephesians 5:26).

### Action Must Be Taken

Tell me what you are looking at. (Matthew 5:28) Tell me where your location is for entertainment. Tell me what you would do if no one knew about it. The only naked female body a man is to see is his wife. There goes 90 percent of TV and the Hollywood industry. When are you going to stop looking? This part includes married men also. Satan's approach for his great lie of sin has not changed. It was first exercised by Satan in the Garden, upon Christ in His temptation, and declared in the consistency of the world about us in I John 2:15,16 (the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life). Where did we get the impression that we control our five senses? We turn them over to God if we desire His assistance in temptation. "Remove your way far from her, and come not near the door of her house, and your years to the cruel" (Proverbs 5:8,9).

### Their Ultimate End

Do you know people involved in adultery, fornication (prior to marriage), and/or homosexuality? Then you are already acquainted with people headed for hell. On the list of those headed there for certain, illicit practice of sex is included. "Now the works of the flesh are manifest which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like of the which I tell you, as I have also told in times past, that **THEY WHICH DO SUCH THINGS SHALL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**" (Galatians 5:19-21). Note that sexual sins head the list. "Know you not that the unrighteous **SHALL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD?** Be not deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, **SHALL INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD**" (I Corinthians 6:9,10). In Revelation 21:8, God states they shall burn in the Lake of Fire, which is hell for all eternity. You say, *I do not believe this fact!* Your unbelief changes nothing stated in the Word of God. One of the Ten Commandments in both Testaments clearly states **THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY**. God's sacred institution of marriage is to be maintained during all of the lifetime of both partners. God will deal with those who break their marriage vows and ignore God's plan.

No one is forced into sin or to remain in its clutches. Everyone of us can take Joseph's action. First Corinthians 6:18 commands us to "flee fornication." This means a change of location, circumstances, and pressure by environmental factors. After the list of the works of the flesh, the Apostle Paul recognized some of these guilty people on this list: "And such were some of you; but you are washed, but you are sanctified; but you are justified in the Name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (I Corinthians 6:11). Jesus Christ is the only way back to His Father's cleansing and forgiveness of sin: "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man comes to the Father, but by Me" (John 14:6). When we repent as God demands in Luke 13:3 we turn from our sin in dependence upon the Savior for deliverance. *Now wait a minute, Preacher Porter, there is no way I can stop my sex sins.* Yes, you can with Christ's power within you. "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). Get your Bible open to read it daily. Talk to God in prayer about everything (vs. 6). Let Him give you a hatred for sin and a love for His righteousness. Are you going to believe God or heed Satan's lie as Adam and Eve did in the Garden? (Genesis 3) **NEVER FORGET THE HARLOT'S HONEY LEADS TO HELL!**

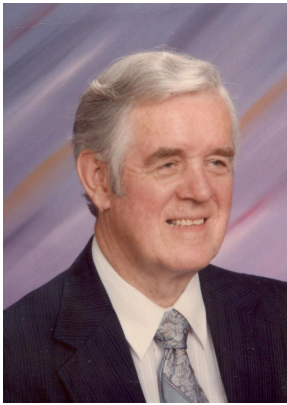
## YOUR CALL . . .

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**sation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath.**" But now, we are "**pilgrims and strangers,**" of which it is said that we are to "**abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.**" There is a spiritual song that starts this way: "*This world is not my home, I'm just a passing through: My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue.*" Here is where so many have gone wrong. They've been told that salvation is their ticket to heaven **without** ever being told the differences that have taken place the moment they were saved. Before salvation, I regarded this world as my home. I lived as though it were my home, and after the flesh. After salvation, I came to the realization from the Scriptures that this world isn't home any longer. My home is where God, my Father is, in heaven. And I am here now as a stranger and a pilgrim in a foreign land. The world is to be affected by me as I pass through it. Whether I affect one or thousands is God's business. My responsibility is to be a pilgrim and a stranger to the world and not put down deep roots here, but rather point others to the same Savior and the same narrow path that so many took before us: "**And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God**" (Romans 12:2).

The Lord Jesus Christ came here for me. I am here for you. You are here for others. Your call to be a missionary for Christ is as important as mine. Let's represent Christ well. Let's be faithful ambassadors for Him. Let's "*let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*" Let's be good and faithful missionaries for Him wherever we are, whatever our age, until He comes for us to take us to our eternal home not built with hands.

## Personal Word



By reading the following statistics you will understand my personal enthusiasm about possessing a web-site on the Internet. First of all, let's review what we have made available. You can read about 90 individual messages; and by downloading, they can be printed in your office or home. This is also true of our monthly publication, *The Challenger*. You can hear a number of our audio messages. Our cassettes and CDs are featured, as well as our Bible Study Course, consisting of nine lessons. Anyone, anywhere around the world has full access to these Bible-teaching materials on our

worldwide web-site. No financial appeal is involved.

Just as CDs took the place of the old LP records and DVDs took the place of the old VHS videotapes, the Internet will most likely storm into an every-increasing power media position as the years move into the future. Population projections from the surveys of the Pew Internet and American Life Project show that about 140 million adults (18 and older) are on-line and about 25 million youth (12 through 17) use the Internet in the United States. Nielsen/Netratings estimates there are 210 million Internet users in the U.S. ([www.nielsennetratings.com](http://www.nielsennetratings.com)). China has over 137 million estimated Internet users, ranking them second only to the U.S.

*Comscore* data reveals that of a profile taken of a 1- to 5-million sample, 45 percent of Internet users were between the ages of 35-54, the majority being below the age of 35, and that 72 percent of all Internet users preferred news or information-related resources.

### Your Personal Assistance

Everywhere, people must hear about our web-site before they will check it. I have a large supply of small business cards announcing this ministry on our web-site. How many can I send for you to share them with your friends, relatives, and others you come into contact with? All of us know some people using the Internet. You can increase our worldwide ministry by distributing these announcement cards. Thanks for laboring with us to reach souls with biblical Truth.

### We Will Help You!

Our impeached president stated these words all through his two terms in office. He repeats them while assisting his wife, who is now running for president. It appears that the people elected are the ones providing the most governmental assistance for the voters. Are you aware that over half of all Americans (52.6 percent) are now receiving "dole" from Uncle Sam? So says Gary Shilling, an economist in New Jersey. He points out that these handouts are approaching twice the size they were back in 1950.

### I Am Still at It

I love to preach and teach the Word of God. By far, the most people I am reaching with Truth, I shall never see this side of heaven. It is a privilege to talk to precious hearts face to face. Recently, this was my delight at their men's breakfast at the Community Baptist Church, the Thanksgiving dinner at Shiloh Youth Ranch, and the Sunday morning service at the Alliance church in Sebastian. On each occasion, their words of appreciation for the Word were encouragement. They still exist. I am referring to those

who long to hear from God rather than man. The rest of them sleep on during my messages.

### Part of Our Ministry

With 2.2 million men and women in our prisons across America, it is a tremendous mission field. Both chaplains and the prisoners write often expressing appreciation for our free literature. As of this moment we are sending about eight to ten thousand messages each and every month. Some personally write for them. Others pick them up from the bulk mailings sent to their chaplains. The vast majority have never heard of God's plan for their eternal salvation. One by one they are getting saved, with a transformed life that is a vital part of God's work. Think what this means to their wives and children. They are receiving our printed messages, this publication, and our thrilling Bible Study Course. Never will God's Word return to Him void. We are accomplishing as much as our funds will allow.

### From Box 400



Your love and support have helped me as I look to God and the Holy Spirit to help others. I want to personally thank you for your faithful service to the Lord and the ministry of spreading the gospel to the lost around the world. As we set out on a journey of faith into the New Year, I pray for you and your family, to receive God's blessings and protection. May the blessings of peace, hope, and love rest upon you.

— a prisoner (TX)

Please keep up your awesome work for the Body of Christ. Thank you for *The Challenger*. Thank you for writing your thoughts from time to time when answering requests. This says so much about you and your ministry, especially in today's arena of mega ministries where the leader is so busy and far removed from the people that a handwritten message is unheard of. — a prisoner (CA)

FROM THE DESK OF . . . DR. MICHAEL ECCLESTON

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HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH  
TITUSVILLE, FLORIDA

## YOUR CALL TO BE A MISSIONARY

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15). “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service” (Romans 12:1). “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people: that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9).

In dealing with people about their spiritual condition over the years, some recurring themes surface: I don't want to be saved because God *might* want me to go to the mission field; or, I don't want to be in full-time Christian work! I am prepared to show you that there's more at work in those two statements, but we need to first dispel the argument that there is a difference between the sacred and the secular. When you responded to the gospel call because you saw yourself as a needy, undone sinner, in need of being saved from the slave market of sin, and unable to save yourself in any way, you did as every other person who is saved has done, depending fully on the finished work (substitutionary blood atonement, death, and resurrection) of the Lord Jesus Christ for you and your sin debt personally. You trusted Christ by faith for your eternal salvation and forgiveness of sin, and God saved you by his grace.

A number of things took place upon being saved, one of which was a positional sanctification: you were set apart to God for His purposes for eternity. The practical side to that is the working out of that which is now within. You are God's child through faith in Christ, no doubt, but you are also His representative, His ambassador for Christ, His light, His witness, His missionary to all of your world and beyond.

**Someone, somewhere and at some time, was a missionary to you.** It may have been a gospel tract, a cassette tape, a CD, or a video. It could have been a written article or the spoken Word. The fact is, however, that the message came your way from another source. Because of their response to God's claim and call on their lives, you heard, responded, and were saved. Now you have the same responsibility as the one or one's who brought the Word of God to you. There are those who God is counting on you to reach — others who you can reach that they couldn't. They are in your world and you need to preach the gospel to every one of them in your world. If you drop the ball — just one of you, for whatever excuse you want to give, two immediate things take place: 1) you become disobedient to God's Word, and 2) you make it much harder for your world to be reached with the truth from God's Word — maybe not reached at all. ***If you are saved, you have been called to be a missionary for the Lord Jesus Christ and His saving gospel.***

Let me approach this in another way: As saved born-again believers in Christ, it is only reasonable for us to daily live sacrificially, to live holy, and acceptable lives to the Lord. God has so equipped us to carry out His every command — all of His children are without excuse, no matter their age or education or circumstances of life. We are a royal priesthood. We are not a part of that corrupt priesthood that exists in religious circles and parades itself around as “Christian.” And we are a peculiar people — that is, a purchased people, by the blood of Christ. Therefore, our view of life here has been dramatically changed from within. Once, we ***“walked according to the course of this world,”*** we were ***“children of disobedience.”*** We also ***“had our conver-***

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### OUR OPERATION

We have discontinued our radio ministry, but we continue full speed in our other outlets. You can hear our messages by cassette or CDs; let us know of your interest. Five couples volunteer their time and energy in this ministry. We pay no salaries, which means your gifts go 100 percent to reach thousands weekly by literature, cassettes, Bible studies, and on our website. We welcome your participation.

### ~ WEB SITE ~

**thehourofgraceandpower.org**

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***“Be you steadfast, unmovable, always  
abounding in the work of the Lord . . .  
You know your labor is not in vain  
in the Lord” 1 Corinthians 15:58***

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