

21 April 2024

Holy Living – Part 1

Leviticus 18:1-10, Matt 19:1-6

Making sense of rules...

1) Understanding sex in God's created order

- *Male and female to be fruitful (Gen 1:27-28)*

*"So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'" **Gen 1:27-28***

- *Marriage as the basis of a family (Gen 2:24-25, Matt 19:4-6)*

*"That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame." **Gen 2:24-25***

*"Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." **Matt 19:4-6***

- *Sex as consummation of 'one-flesh' union (1 Cor 6:16)*

*Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh." **1 Cor 6:16***

2) Misusing sex brings shame and defilement

- *"having sexual relations", "dishonour" = uncovering / nakedness*
- *Shame in the family, defilement in body and land*

3) Practical and pastoral implications

Honouring God and one another with our sexual conduct and relationships

**Let us in live in accord with God's purpose for creation,
and bring glory to Him.**