

I. Introduction

■ Isaiah 28:23–29 –

[23] Give ear, and hear my voice;
give attention, and hear my speech.

[24] Does he who plows for sowing plow
continually?

Does he continually open and harrow his
ground?

**[25] When he has leveled its surface,
does he not scatter dill, sow cumin,
and put in wheat in rows
and barley in its proper place,
and emmer as the border?**

**[26] For he is rightly instructed;
his God teaches him.**

[27] Dill is not threshed with a threshing
sledge,

nor is a cart wheel rolled over cumin,
but dill is beaten out with a stick,
and cumin with a rod.

[28] Does one crush grain for bread?

No, he does not thresh it forever;
when he drives his cart wheel over it
with his horses, he does not crush it.

[29] This also comes from the LORD of hosts;
he is wonderful in counsel
and excellent in wisdom.

- Ray Ortlund – “Whenever we walk away from God, we walk towards something inhumane, unsafe, and life-depleting.”

II. Our Cultural Moment

- Sam Allberry’s 4 Shifts in our Culture’s Understanding of Sex
 1. Our moral intuitions have changed.
 2. Our views of minorities have changed.
 3. Our view of sex and marriage have changed.
 4. Our anthropology has changed.

III. God’s Unchanging Design for Human Flourishing

- Christopher Yuan: “Holy Sexuality consists of two paths: chastity in singleness and faithfulness in marriage.”
- In other words, sex can be righteously used for God’s glory in the context of the monogamous, life-long, and exclusive covenant of heterosexual marriage. Or, sex can be righteously abstained from, for God’s glory
- Outline of the Course
 1. God’s Purposes/Design for Sex (today)
 2. The Problem with Sex Outside of Marriage & The Plausibility of Celibacy (2/2)
 3. Pornography (2/9)
 4. Transgenderism (2/16)
 5. Homosexuality (2/23)
 6. Q & A (3/1)
 7. Abuse with Bill White (3/8)
 8. Sex & the Next Generation (3/15)

IV. Purposes of Sex within its God-Given Design (Texts)

1. The Glory of God

- Genesis 1:26-31

- Genesis 2:18-25

- i. Ray Ortlund – “Now, if we were reading the Bible for the first time, what question might we ask, as Genesis 1 concludes? Turning the page to chapter 2, we might wonder what kind of sequel could match or exceed the glories of the first chapter. But, in fact, what happens next in the Biblical story? After the heavens and the earth come together in the first creation, a man and a woman come together in the first marriage. Surprisingly, the Bible moves from cosmic majesty in Genesis 1 to a common everyday reality in Genesis 2: a young couple falling in love. So we might wonder if marriage is out of its depth here alongside the creation of the universe. Or could it be that the Bible sees in marriage more than we typically do?”

- Ephesians 5:22-32

- i. Ray Ortlund – “Marriage may be common to us, but it is why the universe was created, and not for Adam and Eve only, but even more for Christ and his church.”

- Revelation 19:6-9

- Revelation 21:1-4, 9-11

- i. Ray Ortlund – “The heavens and the earth were created for the marriage of Adam and Eve. The new heavens and the new earth will be created for the marriage of Christ and his bride. The whole of cosmic reality exists as a venue for the eternal honeymoon of the perfect husband with his perfect bride in marital bliss forever and ever. This is the breathtaking claim of the Bible.”

2. Oneness/Consummation/Covenant

- Matthew 19:3-6

- 1 Corinthians 6:16

3. Procreation

- Genesis 1:28

4. Pleasure

- Song of Solomon 2:8-17; 4:1-16; 5:10-16; 7:1-10

5. Protection

- 1 Corinthians 7:1-5

- Proverbs 5:15-23

- Hebrews 13:4

6. Intimacy