

Sexual Purity, a Realistic Fantasy

Images of a sexual nature bombard the minds of our youth on a daily basis. Let's face it; we live in a society where sex sells. The television, radio, newspaper, magazines and billboards all have flashed across them messages of a carnal nature. The role models of today – the music artiste, the Miss Universes, the actors – only seem to perpetuate the moral dilemma we now find ourselves in. It is sad that most are no longer alarmed by the fashions young women now find themselves in – styles which are well capable of turning on the 'animal instinct' in the opposite sex.

The chaste life – more and more, this 'concept' seems to be a fallacy. Youth are caught up in the vicious extramarital affair cycle at very early ages. When examined, this activity pattern is really not that hard to understand – sex is what the youth see around them. Abstinence is now a joke. A twenty-two year old virgin, absurd! Young people are now ashamed to say that they are saving themselves for marriage. Certainly, that's old fashioned!

Is there a pathway out of the sexual jungle? Is there any hope for our youth? Thankfully friends, God is able. God has 'keeping' power. Many young people today seem to think that God has no interest in this area of their lives. I assure them that God 'is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think.' (Eph 3:20) That is an extremely power-packed promise. The Divine One is saying that anything we can conceive, be it related to the control of sexual desires, He is able to do far greater than that.

Genesis 39 tells us of the young man who fled. When confronted, with what I am sure was undoubtedly a very tempting offer, the first thought that came to Joseph's mind was God. He asked, "How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" After constant pressure to defile his purity, Joseph fled from the situation.

There are two important lessons that can be learned from Joseph.

Place God first and foremost.

A relationship with the Father helps keep the hormones in check. Joseph's relationship with God, not with his father or mother, was the first thing he considered. When we converse with God and grow to love Him, we realize that our bodies are His temple. We would also realize that God equips us to deal with our

natural feelings. Furthermore, He always comes to our aid when we need Him. Depend on Jesus.

Flee.

Joseph physically fled from Potiphar's wife. At times we find ourselves in unfavourable environments. Many think that they are able to withstand the small touch or the kiss. They say to themselves, 'Nothing will come out of this.' What about the weak 'No' some give, or even the strong one as in Joseph's case? Some people just aren't affected by negative verbal response. My friends, sometimes the best thing one can do is run. Remove yourself from the situation. Don't worry what others may say about you. The reward far outweighs the ridicule. Plus, you'll gain the respect of the right people.

Joseph waited long for his reward. It is possible that at times he may have thought his life would have been a lot easier had he slept with his master's wife. God did not forget Joseph. He did not leave him in that Egyptian jail. God raised Joseph up out of the dungeon in grand style. Second in command in the land! Isn't God grand?

God is planning something grand for you too. Just as he specially crafted Eve for Adam, from Adam, He's crafting someone for you too. God, the greatest lover of all, knows exactly who the right lover for you is. Pray and seek his guidance in finding your life's partner. Your blessing is just around the corner. Just keep hoping and trusting in God. He's working overtime for you. Until your mate comes, remember, grow in God, and flee!

Lanalisa Jackson