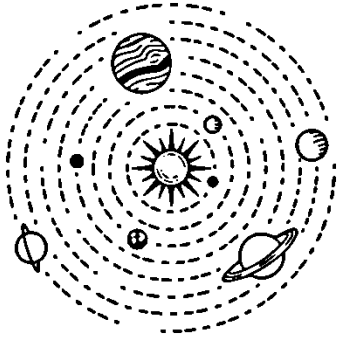


# Orbiting the Son: Planet Sex



- 2 problems: noise and baggage <sup>1</sup>

## SEX as GIFT



- mystery <sup>3</sup>

- multiplication <sup>4</sup>

- magic <sup>5</sup>

## SEX AS god

- misunderstanding sex

- misusing sex <sup>6</sup>

- the push (training) of grace <sup>7</sup>

- the pull of gravity

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<sup>1</sup> **Joel 2:25; Titus 2:11-12**

<sup>2</sup> Tim Keller's *The Meaning of Marriage* (2013);

**Genesis 2:24** is quoted by both Jesus and the Apostle Paul as a paradigm for human life.

<sup>3</sup> **Ephesians 5:31-32** (also **1 Corinthians 6:16-17**)

<sup>4</sup> **Genesis 1:28; Psalm 127:5**

<sup>5</sup> **Proverbs 5:18-19**; while the **Song of Solomon** celebrates physical love-making, it is more than a biblical sex manual because a whole-Bible-understanding sees marriage (and sex within marriage) as a metaphor picturing God's/Christ's love for his people/bride (e.g. **Isaiah 54:5; 62:5; 1 Corinthians 7:5; Ephesians 5:22-33; Revelation 19:6-21:9**); Sam Allberry, *7 Myths about Singleness* (2019); Christopher Ash, *Marriage: Sex in the Service of God* (2003).

<sup>6</sup> **Hebrews 13:4; Exodus 20:14; Matthew 5:28**; Warnings: **1 Corinthians 6:9, 18; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:5; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; Revelation 21:8**

<sup>7</sup> **Titus 2:11-12; Matthew 5:28-29; James 4:7; Hebrews 4:16**

# 1 Corinthians 6:9-7:9

**6** <sup>9</sup> Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men<sup>[a]</sup> **10** nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. **11** And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. **12** "I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything. **13** You say, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both." The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. **14** By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. **15** Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! **16** Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." **17** But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit. **18** Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. **19** Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; **20** you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

**7** <sup>1</sup> Now for the matters you wrote about: "It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman." **2** But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband. **3** The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. **4** The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife. **5** Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual

consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. **6** I say this as a concession, not as a command. **7** I wish that all of you were as I am. But each of you has your own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.

**8** Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I do. **9** But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

## Ephesians 5:25-33

**25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her **26** to make her holy, cleansing<sup>[a]</sup> her by the washing with water through the word, **27** and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. **28** In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. **29** After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— **30** for we are members of his body. **31** "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." **32** This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. **33** However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

## Titus 2:11-14

**11** For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. **12** It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, **13** while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, **14** who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.