

## **DON'T REJECT EXPERIENTIAL SANCTIFICATION**

This is an extension of our [last lesson](#) regarding Experiential Sanctification.

In (1 Thess.4:1-5), Paul taught the importance of every Church Age Believer knowing “How to possess his own vessel” (body) in Sanctification and honor (Gal.5:16; Eph.5:18), by walking by means of the Filling Ministry of the Indwelling Holy Spirit. (1 Cor.6:19-20; 1 John 1:9).

**We will study four aspects of our lesson entitled, Don't Reject Experiential Sanctification.**

### **1. Paul opened our lesson text with the first of four warnings:**

(1 Thess.4:6) “**let no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter** because the Lord is *the* avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned *you*”.

- “**The matter**” (to pragma) was discussed in (1 Thess.4:3-5) (tes porneia) [illicit sexual - cultural sins].

These Believers are warned to NOT **transgress** (huperbaino/ p.a.infin) or **defraud** (pleonekteo/ p.a.infin).

- Transgress is overstepping or violating clearly stated boundaries or limits.
- Defraud is to acquire by deceiving another by violation of trust.

Remember these actions would be the area of illicit sexual behavior (1 Thess.4:1-5) (tes porneia).

(1 Cor.6:19-7:2) “Flee **fornication (ten porneia)**. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the **fornicator** sins against his own body. Or **do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you**, whom you have from God, **and that** you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore, glorify God in your body. Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is **good for a man not to touch (hupto/ sexually arouse) a woman**. **But because of fornication** each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband.”

**NOTE:** He/she is someone's spoken for in the Lord in the Plan of God

### **2. Paul; gives three options to single believers regarding promiscuity.**

- **(1 Cor.6:19-7-2) Paul gave them one option:**
  - **Marriage**
    - But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband
- **(1 Cor.7:7-9, 32-35; 9:5) Paul gave them a second option:**
  - **Become a celibate for Christ**
    - Abstain for Christ (1 Thess.4:3-5).
- **(1 Thess.4:1-8) Paul gave a third option:**
  - **Experiential Sanctification**
    - Walking in the filling ministry of the Indwelling Holy Spirit.
      - (Eph.5:18) [pleroo]; (Gal.,5:16) [peripateo]

### 3. In (1 Thess.4:6), Paul issued a second warning.

(1 Thess.4:6) “The Lord is the **avenger** (ekdikos) [One who carries out justice, makes things right] in **all these things**, just as we also told you before and solely warned.”

**An avenger** is the one who fights for the rights, injustices, and loss freedoms of the innocent, helpless victims.

The Lord uses the office of **avenger for Divine Discipline** of the carnal believer engaged in illicit sexual behavior (Heb.12:5-12; 1 Cor.6:18-7:2).

**Divine Discipline** is always given in **love, seeking change** in way the carnal believer thinks and behaves. (1 Cor.3:1-3; 1 John 1:9; Eph.4:20-24).

David’s treatment of Bathsheba would be an example of the Lord being the avenger (2 Sam.11-12).

### 4. In (1 Thess.4:7), Paul issued a third warning.

(1 Thess.4:7) “For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification”.

He gave his third warning in a negative and positive response to sexual sins in the Christian way of life.

- **Negative:** “**God has NOT** (ouk) called (kaleo/ a.a.ind3ps) us **for** (epi+locative/ associated with called) **the purpose of impurity**”. (akatharsia) [filthiness; uncleanness; sexual sins]
- **Positive:** “**But** (alla of contrast) (God has called/ saved) **in** (en+locative) [the result is greater internal power of the Indwelling Holy Spirit] **sanctification** (hagiasmos).”

Paul is teaching that every Church Age Believer has been saved for the purpose of Experiential Sanctification.

- Walking by the Filling ministry of the Indwelling Holy Spirit is the internal power and authority over the need to gratify lust trends of the Old Sin Nature. (Gal.5:16-17).

### 5. In (1 Thess.4:8), Paul issued the fourth warning.

**Don’t Reject the doctrine of Experiential Sanctification.**

(1 Thess.4:8) “So, he who rejects *this* is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.

**The Indwelling Holy Spirit is the source of Sanctification in the Christian way of life.**

(Rom.8:9-11; John 14:16-17; 1 Cor.3:1-3) (pneumatikos/ spiritual).

**Whenever you reject Experiential Sanctification, gratifying the lusts of your Old Sin Nature you are rejecting the Lord’s way, which is walking by the Filling of the Indwelling Holy Spirit.**

(1 Thess.2:10-13; 3:13; 4:1-5).