

SEX: FIRE IN THE FIREPLACE

March 8, 2020 Genesis 1-2, Song of Songs. By Bob Branch
Christians in a Sex-Crazed Culture, part 1 of 3

BIG IDEA: Fire in the Fireplace: God's very good gift of sex.

1. God's original design: SEX IS GOOD, Beneficial and Delightful.

Complementary shape to fit each other. "...Male and female he created them... God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." **Genesis 1:27, 31**

How humans reproduce! "God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number." **Genesis 1:28**

Part of God's remedy for being alone. "It is not good for the man to be alone. I'll make a helper just right for him." **Genesis 2:18**

Attraction, pleasure and delight. "At last! WO-man! **Genesis 2:23**

Exclusive sharing of ourselves in the bond of marriage. "A man leaves... and is joined to his wife" **Genesis 2:24**

Sharing yourself completely with that one and only. "the two are united into one." **Genesis 2:24**

Utterly vulnerable and shame-free. "Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame." **Genesis 2:25**

2. Sex can be Good & Delightful even AFTER SIN entered the world.

"Your love delights me, my treasure, my bride. Your love is better than wine." **Song of Songs 4:10**

Marriage is the fireplace for the fire of this physical love.

"You are slender like a palm tree, and your breasts are like its clusters of fruit. I said, "I will climb the palm tree and take hold of its fruit." **Song of Songs 7:7-8**

"Fine muscles ripple beneath his skin, quiet and beautiful. His torso is the work of a sculptor, hard and smooth as ivory."

Song of Songs 5:14 TM

Deep sense of belonging. "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine." **Song of Songs 6:3**

"I belong... and his desire is for me." **Song of Songs 7:10**

Power of sex and its danger as well. "Do not stir up or awaken love until the appropriate time." **Songs 2:7 CSB**

3. Sex is an expression of OTHER-ORIENTED LOVE.

"The husband should fulfill his wife's sexual needs, and the wife should fulfill her husband's needs. 4 The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband gives authority over his body to his wife." **1 Corinthians 7:3-4 NLT**

4. Your sexuality and spirituality are DEEPLY CONNECTED.

Human sexuality is healthy when Jesus is at the center. Good sex is an extension of his love realized in us.

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... 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; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies." **1 Corinthians 6:13, 19-20**

CONCLUDE: God designed sex! It is Good!

Where are you with sex? With your sexuality?

Some need healing? Radical reformation? Complete overhaul.

Bring all your sexuality to God, surrender it completely. Let his love come into the center of who you are and begin to restore.