



ZWTF

Saturday, August 3, 2013 Zapping-you Whenever Thoughts Flow

Satan's latest diversionary tactic

Our Adversary once linked sex to idolatry. Now he lives in churches and sets Christians against the wrong enemy.



W e moderns have little idea how prevalent idolatry was in all other ancient societies besides (ideally) Israel. So critical was it to God, the very first commandment given His chosen people warns against it:

And God spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

—Exodus 20:1-3

Dr. Bullinger has recognized, above most commentators, how Scriptural references to such things as, “lewdness,” “prostitutions,” “harlotry,” “abomination,” “go a whoring” and “strange women” have chiefly to do with the worship of false deities, rather than—as com-

monly supposed—sex with females.

Satan's chosen means to approach these rival gods was via sexual intercourse. Why? For the same reason attractive women sell everything today from car insurance to coffee filters. The promoters of the false gods therefore installed their cult prostitutes, or *kedeshah*, in the deities' respective temples, or on the “high places,” that is, atop mountains. By engaging with these prostitutes (“engaging” being a euphemism for sexual intercourse), a man allied himself with the worship of the particular temple deity.

The worship of false deities was, to God, the most detestable of all sins. In Numbers, chapter 25, God ordered 23,000 Israelites to be hung or lowered onto sharpened stakes for prostituting culturally with Baalpeor. (Paul references this event in 1 Corinthians 10:8.) To God, this was a matter of idolatry, not social morality. It was a matter of religion, not sex.

I broach this topic because of the controversy in certain of our circles (small, marginalized, but vociferous circles) over Clyde Pilkington's book, *Due Benevolence: a Survey of Biblical Sexuality*. Many Christians today believe sex to be a “gateway drug” to the worst immoralities Earth offers. Thus, even those things the Christians deem legitimate sexual practices reside just below the sin radar of societal acceptance. This is why sex, in the Christian world, is still “a three-letter word,” considered at its core to be dirty. I am persuaded of better things concerning *us*.

False battlefield

Satan's chief tactic today is deception. He cannot undo the accomplishments of Calvary, but can distract and divert people from it by engaging them in self-generated (as opposed to Scripturally-generated) morality campaigns.

The new idolatry

Satan has convinced countless religionists that sex is our greatest moral threat; the religious are his target market. While Christians quibble and judge others over homemade (as opposed to Scripture-made) lists of sexual prohibitions, Satan constructs—in their midst—the greatest field for mass idolatry ever perpetrated upon a people: *the Christian religion*.

Christianity is the epicenter of Satanic activity today. There is no greater deception, no deeper evil, no more insidious form of idolatry. Even criminal sex pales beside it. As A.E. Knoch writes in *The Unveiling of Jesus Christ*:

Here we have the judgment due the nations for their departure from God. The first and foremost charge against them is the worship of demons and idols (Rev. 9:20). Hence this, the last judgment before the kingdom comes, deals with the religion of the nations and destroys it.

It is grave error to suppose that the only super-human religion is that given by God. The religions of the nations are not of human origin, nor are their gods mere myths of the imagination. Comparitively few of mankind do not worship demons under some form or another. The mass of mankind bow down to demons instead of giving God the glory which is His due.



The religious organizations of the world are the most prolific breeding places of sin. We must never forget that the heads of the only divine religion were guilty of the most heinous of all crimes. Not the Roman governor, but the Jewish chief priests crucified the Christ. But if the most exalted men in that God-given ritual committed the greatest of all sins, what can we expect of those who follow the cult of the demons?

The second woe comes on them because, as demon worshippers, they are guilty of murder and enchantment and prostitution and theft. The coloring of the context assures us that these are considered as the accompaniments of religion, a part of the ritual, sins sanctified and sacred.

There are only four great religions in the world: Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity. For each there is a messenger of destruction being prepared. The doom of each has been decreed and only awaits the destined moment. The sixth messenger will loose the four messengers, and they will rid the earth of all its Christless Christianity and Godless religions.

Before this time the members of the body of Christ will have been received up into glory. But that event will by no means be the end of Christendom. Christianity has its messenger waiting to unleash his horrid hosts upon the heads of the apostate "church."¹

In *Concordant Studies in the Book of Daniel*, A.E. Knoch writes:

In fact, many peoples of the earth live in continual fear of the demons that haunt their existence, and make their lives a series of propitiations to the evil genii which seeks to harm them. Christendom, however, is so deceived that it is blind to the powers that impel it. Like Eve in the garden, they are pleased with the prospect of being as gods, and accept the leadership of the spirit which promises to make man divine. It should make us dreadfully afraid to learn that the leading religions of the world are satanic in their origin and end.

Those who know the great religions of the world firsthand, realize how sorely they misrepresent God and alienate mankind from His heart. It is the effort of the alienated spirit world to turn man's worship away from God to Satan. They organize man into great religious bodies which become powerful and seem to succeed in driving God out of the earth, and almost succeed in wiping its saints from its surface.

These views are true. Man's views of these great religions are false. He looks upon them as a means by which men may worship God, and organize efforts to glorify Him in the earth.

Christless Christianity, which believers must associate with His revelation in a special way, for it is supposed to be based on the Bible, is the most guilty, since it has the outward shell of the truth and a form of godliness based on God's Word, nevertheless lacks

1. A.E. Knoch, *The Unveiling of Jesus Christ*; pgs. 287-90.

life and power, and is not only ungodly, but inhuman and sub-beastly, beyond the others. It is out of Christendom that the large horn arises that speaks monstrous things to set aside the Supreme.

Here we have human religion in its final form and ripest stage. It may look harmless enough from our standpoint, especially the falsified religion of Christendom. But, in essence, it deposes God and deifies man. Let us not be deceived by its outward forms or spiritual pretensions. The test is, **Is man, in any measure, given the place that belongs to God?**²

Christianity is, in fact, the most idolatrous of all the religions. For this reason, God destroys Christianity and kills its devotees at the outset of judgment, leaving Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam, to linger.

Again, from A.E. Knoch:

Those who see how the size of God is shrinking in Christendom will be quite prepared to view its utter apostasy in the era of the end. The fatalism of the eastern religions at least preserves the husk of submission to the Deity, so that their judgment will not be so severe as that which falls upon the western religion (Christianity). It may be difficult for some to see this. That is why we call attention to it here. It is much easier to judge the religion around us in the light of its development and adjudication by God, than to form a true estimate of its character under present conditions, and with our prejudices and traditions as a background.

We are so saturated with our own superiority in regard to both political and religious matters, that any suggestion that the light we have may only increase the severity of our judgment is not welcome.³

In his Companion Bible, Dr. Bullinger writes:

Babylon is the fountain-head of all idolatry and systems of false worship. This is the “mystery of iniquity” (2 Thess. 2:7) seen in all the great religions of the world. All alike substitute another god for the God of the Bible; a god made either with the hands or with the imagination, but equally made; a religion consisting of human merit and endeavor.⁴

2. A.E. Knoch, *Concordant Studies in the Book of Daniel*; pgs. 195-97.

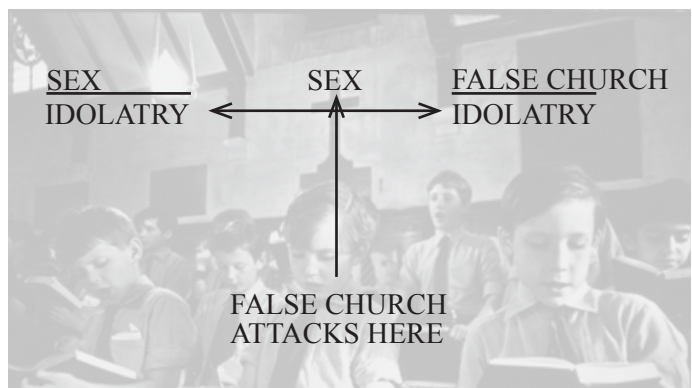
3. A.E. Knoch, *Concordant Studies in the Book of Daniel*; pgs. 235-36.

4. Revelation 17:5, pg. 1905.

Satan must be pleased, then, to see Christian armies and small, quibbling groups of believers amassed at the false front (that is, the Satanic device) of “sexual immorality.” While organizations like the American Family Association strive to eliminate pornography (that is, pictures of naked females) from Western society, Satan works the greatest evil ever perpetrated against Western society in their midst, making them the death-merchants of such demonic doctrines as eternal torment, free will, and the Trinity.

A new delivery vehicle

To help you appreciate the nature of this Satanic device, I have drawn a chart:



In the past, sex and idolatry were closely allied. God carefully differentiated, however, between idolatrous sex and the household variety. In the Hebrew Scriptures, the word *zonah* simply means an ordinary prostitute or loose woman. But the word *kedeshah* (used of a cult-prostitute) literally means “consecrated (feminine form),” from the Semitic root *q-d-sh*, meaning “holy” or “set apart.”¹ This was the brand of prostitution God hated.

Satan will always promote idolatry, but will change his tactics. For approximately 4,000 years, he packaged his poison (idolatry) into the pill of sex. Today, the premiere vehicle is Christianity, or the false church. It is a far subtler deception. Having released sex from its past association, he is free now to reconstitute it, and has. Sex—created by God as good—is now the ripest field for Christian-inspired moral battles. What irony. The real enemy can neither see nor taste its own poison (idolatry), for preoccupation with the false enemy (sex). Jesus called it “straining out gnats and swallowing camels” (Matthew 23:24).

1. Blue Letter Bible, Lexicon results for *qedeshah* (Strong’s H2181), incorporating Strong’s Concordance (1890) and Gesenius’s Lexicon (1857).

Divine wardrobe malfunction

Janet Jackson's alleged Super Bowl wardrobe malfunction of February, 2004, is a good example of how successfully Satan has vilified sex. Justin Timberlake, dancing next to Jackson during the Super Bowl halftime performance, tore open the top of her outfit, exposing her right breast for approximately two seconds. It fell short of total nudity, as Jackson had adorned herself with a metal "solar medallion." Our sex-obsessed Christian culture, however, went apoplectic. This from Wikipedia:

TIME reported that the incident became the most replayed moment in TiVo history, and a company representative stated, "The audience measurement guys have never seen anything like it. The audience reaction charts looked like an electrocardiogram." Monte Burke of Forbes magazine reported "the fleeting moment enticed an estimated 35,000 new [TiVo] subscribers to sign up." Jackson was later listed in the 2007 edition of Guinness World Records as "Most Searched in Internet History" and the "Most Searched-for News Item". The



Super Bowl incident is widely considered to be one of the most controversial television events in history. YouTube creator Jawed Karim revealed the inspiration for YouTube came from Janet's infamous Super Bowl incident, when her breast was accidentally exposed by Timberlake during the halftime show. Karim could not easily find the video clip online, which led to its creation. Following the incident, 'Janet Jackson' became the most searched term, event and image in Internet history and also broke the record for "most searched event over one day". 'Janet Jackson' also became the most searched internet term for 2004 and also the following year. The event also coined the phrase "wardrobe malfunction", which was later added to the dictionary in 2008. CBS, the NFL, and MTV (CBS's sister network, which produced the halftime show), denied any knowledge of, and all responsibility for, the incident. Still, the Federal Communications Commission continued an investigation, ultimately losing

its appeal for a \$550,000 fine against CBS.

As God made them

In another day—even Israel's day—nudity was common, even for women. Woman habitually bathed outdoors. In Paul's day, Greek athletes competed without clothes. Peter fished naked (John 21:7).

When a Greek wished to dance or work, he simply slipped out of his clothing and proceeded. It was the natural thing to do, and no one was dismayed by seeing a nude person dancing or working. Archaeologists have found many vases depicting completely naked performers at festivals and laborers in the fields.²

Rather than proving us to be a careful, sexually moral culture, the Jackson incident shows us to be quite possibly the most sex-obsessed, sex-fearing nation in history. As suggested by author Aileen Goodson, this obsession has reached pathological extremes:

The naked body is still considered unnatural. Nudity on American television is rare. During the daytime hours, when children are watching, nudity isn't permissible. Children are protected from the "damaging" effects of viewing a natural, normal, and harmless human body, but body violence is condoned as entertainment for our children and ourselves. Such confused value systems help fill the psychiatric couch.³

"Body violence is condoned," indeed. This same sex-fearing culture fearlessly promotes a God Who tortures people for eternity. The West prides itself on its Judeo-Christian heritage ("In God We Trust"), to which the false terror of eternal torment belongs, and from which comes the so-called gospel of "turn or burn."

Had Janet Jackson stripped naked and straddled Timberlake on-stage, the resultant so-called "damaging effects" would pale beside the Western nightmare of an insane, cruel, and incapable Deity. Shall we shop and compare the damaging effects?

Christianity worships a false god. Does anyone care? Or are we too preoccupied with mammary glands?

Who makes Christians think so wrongly about sex? The same being making them think so wrongly about God: Satan. The people damning sex and nudity are the same ones defaming God's name. It is not coincidental. At the behest of Satan, the merchants of modern idolatry *must* be engaged on a monstrously false battlefield.

2. Anthony J. Papalas; *Greek Attitudes Toward Nudity.*

3. Aileen Goodson; *Nudity in Ancient to Modern Cultures.*

Allied with Satan

When those who are believers rather than Christians mount the “sex-is-a-modern-terror/danger” bandwagon, they unwittingly support Satan’s false battlefield strategy, as well as his plan to lead millions from proper preoccupation with the real danger: Christianity’s idolatrous theology.

I know a body of Christ member who is practically obsessed with the sexual morality of others. At the same time, he supports and attends a local church, being fully apprised of the erroneous teachings within. One can only conclude that this man considers the God-defiling church doctrines fairly tolerable, at least in comparison to the sexual dispositions of fellow believers.

Talk about misguided zeal. Talk about despising the wrong thing; this is precisely what afflicts the Christian religion and fuels modern idolatry.

Women still lead men astray

The aforementioned man attends the false church for the sake of his wife. Does this sound familiar? From Adam, to Solomon, to David, to Samson, to Herod, Satan has employed women to distract men into idolatry and entice them into sin. His tactics in *this* department have remained consistent. This is not to disparage women, only certain women. It *is* to disparage indiscriminate men. Once again, Satan allies sex and idolatry. As the old saying goes, “Whisper into my ear, and I’ll follow you anywhere.” Satan may well adopt more subtle deceptions, but why completely abandon such an historically successful one?

Am I making myself clear?

To avoid misunderstanding, allow me another attempt at clarity. God hates idolatry. Because of its defaming of the Deity; because of its promotion of salvation by self (free will); because it mesmerizes the mass of humanity; because it has turned countless people from the one true God—Christianity is the seat of modern idolatry. *God hates it.*

What God doesn’t hate, is sex. He invented it. Super Bowl XXXVIII did not bother Him. He is much

more liberal and comfortable about such things than we Westerners will ever be. Our standards of human sexual behavior are many times more confining and ultimately damaging than even those of the Mosaic law. Study it for yourself. The sexual laws of Leviticus are holy, just, and good (Romans 7:12). Those who would add to them do so at their own peril.



redefining evil

We have fancied ourselves more “moral” than God. This is Satan’s influence; we have taken his bait. Satan has vilified sex, making it the new battleground for Christians and all manner of religionists. His goal is to divert seekers and worldlings alike from realizing the vilest evil existent: Christian theology.

He has succeeded magnificently.

Having said that, I now say this: Churches are more immoral, and far more dangerous, than either strip clubs or brothels. God is not defamed at the brothel. No one watching a disrobing female leaves the club to begin fearing death. Not one person at either place departs to judge and condemn his fellows. Not a single patron emerges from a brothel to do holy battle against “infidels.” No devotee of the strip club imagines, afterward, that he can save himself from sin and death.

It takes a church to inspire such things.

If you would rise to defend the church against these other institutions, you are asleep to the wiles of Satan, oblivious to the dangers of the Christian profession. If you would shield your precious child’s eyes from Janet Jackson’s body, only to set that same child into a pew, you are *profoundly* blind, having succumbed to both ends of the most debilitating scam ever foisted upon humanity: 1) the Christian religion, 2) the vilification of sex.

Wake up and smell reality. ■

—Martin Zender