



A  
Ministry  
of:

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**SENSUALITY IS DISPLACING THE SPIRITUAL.**

*Challenge Xtra! January 2012*

**“Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.” ~Titus 2:12.** “The period in which we now live may well go down in history as the Erotic Age. Sex love has been elevated into a cult. Eros has more worshippers among civilized men today than any other god. For millions, the erotic has completely displaced the spiritual. Contributing factors are the phonograph and radio, which can spread a love song from coast to coast within a matter of days; the motion picture and television, which enable a whole population to feast their eyes on sensuous women and amorous men locked in passionate embrace (and this in the living rooms of “Christian” homes and before the eyes of innocent children!). Add to these the myriad of shrewdly contrived advertising campaigns which make sex the not too slyly concealed bait to attract buyers for almost every imaginable product; and degraded columnists who have consecrated their lives to the task of publicizing soft slinky nobodies with the faces of angels and the morals of alley cats. Now if this god Eros would let us Christians alone, I for one would let this cult alone for the whole spongy, fetid mess will sink some day under its own weight and become excellent fuel for the fires of hell. But the cult of Eros is seriously affecting the Christian Church. When God’s sheep are in danger the shepherd is morally obligated to grab his weapon and run to their defense...” - A. W. Tozer.

No one could have described this age better! The amazing thing is that Tozer died in 1963, so he is describing things over thirty (now 50) years ago. Today is 1,000 times worse! Now, we do not expect the world to get better; it can only go in one direction - down! God says to His children: **“Love not the world neither the things that are in the world...For all that is in the world, is the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father but of the world.”** But our concern is with those who claim to be “born again” children of God. I do not know how true believers can look at any of the average fare on television, but I am sure many do. What Tozer described is very tame compared to what is dished out these days. Even many of the commercials are not fit to look at. I have heard many Christians say, “Well, I control my television.” Of course you do! *The problem is you don’t control it the way you ought to!* If you did, it wouldn’t be on! Most of what you watch, is not fit for Christian eyes or minds. You can read your Bible all you want to (and I’m afraid there is not much “want to”), but *if you are going to spend hours in front of that sin box, you are not going to be spiritual.* If you added up all your TV time in a week and all your prayer and Bible study time, which would come out ahead. Of course, the truth is you shouldn’t be looking at TV at all. Some say they need the news. Do you? How much news do you really need, Christian? Do you really need to know what goes on in Bosnia, etc. The weather? The same reports are on the radio. Though few will admit it, the television appeals to the flesh, and that is where many of God’s people are living! You wouldn’t put garbage in your stomach, but you will put it in

your mind. The latter is far worse! Many so called *Christian books* push the Eros theme, only a little more mildly than worldly books or the TV screen. But it is Eros just the same, and it is affecting many, especially our young people. I believe some of these so called “Christian” books which have a sensual theme only give our young people a thirst for more and more of the erotic and leads them to delve into the world’s offerings. We need to remember the Lord’s admonition: **“Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap...”** ~Gal. 6:7,8.

You cannot put worldly and sinful things in your mind without paying a price. I remember reading of a Christian mother who was getting dinner ready when her teenage daughter came in and asked about a book she was reading which had the type of material in it that we are speaking of. The mother began to put some of the peelings and garbage into the dinner pan. The daughter exclaimed: “Mother, watch what you are doing. you are putting the garbage in with dinner.” Her mother replied, “I thought that since you didn’t mind putting garbage in your mind, you wouldn’t mind a little in your stomach.” Believe me, it is far worse to have it in your mind than in your stomach! I know some people think that we are a little too hard on this subject! I doubt if we are hard enough! The plain truth is many, and I have no fear of saying that most Christians are watching and reading things that harm their minds and grieve the Holy Spirit. TV is a curse, and a faithful Pastor must warn the sheep. Sad to say, many Pastors are themselves caught up in this carnality and therefore they never make it an issue. God said to a young preacher: **“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”** ~II Timothy 4:2. Of course, it is not possible to reprove and rebuke the people if you are guilty of the same practices. We preachers need to take heed to how we lead God’s sheep; it is indeed a grave responsibility. The Apostle Paul exhorted the Ephesians elders: **“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”** ~Acts 20:28. Some preachers need to repent in this area and then lead their people in a separated walk with Christ. Dear Christian, God says, **“Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account...”** ~Hebrews 13:17. We need to remember that someday we shall have to give an account!

Whatever happened to the doctrine of holiness? God says to His people: **“But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”** ~I Peter 1:15,16. We are admonished: **“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”** ~Romans 12:2. The child of God is not to be like this “present evil world”, but he is called to be separated from it. In II Corinthians 6:14-18, it says: **“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them and walk in them; and I will be their God and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among, them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”** There is one more important verse of Scripture that I would like to leave with you, and I hope you will consider. It is Galatians 6:7,8: **“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption: but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”** (From a 1995 *Challenge* with additions). We believe that this warning is more needed than ever.

The **CORNERSTONE CHALLENGE**

**January 2012**

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