

▼ **Jesus and the Adulteress**

Rocklyn Clarke Sr. - Sunday October 4, 2026

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<http://www.LifeChurchBoston.org/>

▼ **Opening Material**

▼ **Welcome!**

- Praise the Lord!
- Welcome to another Life Church sermon!

▼ **Transition**

- Welcome to another Sunday at Life Church.
- The QR code (also available on our song sheets) links to our Visitor Landing Page.
- Use it to access our notes, share your contact information, and access our giving page.
- Questions? If you took the time to visit us, you deserve to get answers!
- Email: Questions@LifeChurchBoston.ORG
- We are beginning John 8.
- We will have Q&A / Discussion after the message followed by Sunday Connection.

▼ **Thoughts**

▼ **Acts 2:42-43 - The 4 Devotions:**

- The apostles' teaching
- fellowship
- the breaking of bread
- prayer

• **Cultural Rivers**

▼ **Overview**

▼ **In today's message we will do the following:**

▼ **Why are we here?**

- Acts 2:36-39
- Acts 17:29-31
- Review our passage - John 7:53 - 8:11
- Explore what Jesus is teaching us.

- Transition to Q&A / Discussion and Sunday Connection.

▼ Opening Material

▼ Why are we here?

- Acts 2:29-39 - Spoken to Jews

“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. **Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah**, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. **God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.** Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.

For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“ ‘The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet.” ’

“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: **God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.**”

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

Peter replied, “**Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off —for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

- Acts 17:29-31 - Spoken to Gentiles

“Therefore, since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. **For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.**”

▼ Welcome to John!

▼ Video

- [Bible Project: John 1-12](#) - (00:08:46)
- John 20:30-31

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

- John 21:25

Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

▼ Embrace Jesus’ Mission

▼ Jesus’ mission, (expressed in the synoptic gospels) still applies.

- Matthew 4:17 – “Repent, for the Kingdom of God has come near!”
- Mark 1:14-15 – “The Kingdom of God has come near . . .”
- Luke 4:14-21 – “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me . . .”

▼ **Feed on the Life of Jesus**

- **Are you “worded up”?**
- **Eat his flesh; Drink his blood - John 6:53-59; 2 Samuel 23:13-17**
- **Does the Word of Christ dwell in you richly (Colossians 3:16 - KJV)?**

▼ **What if you read a Gospel every month - a chapter a day?**

- The Gospel of Mark in October (10/1 – 10/16)
- The Gospel of Luke in November (11/1 – 11/24)
- The Gospel of John in December (12/1 – 12/21)
- The Gospel of Matthew in January (1/1 – 1/28)

▼ **For October this means:**

- Read Mark 3 on October 3 (yesterday).
- Read Mark 4 on October 4 (today).
- Read Mark 5 on October 5 (tomorrow).
- etc.
- **As you read, write down any questions you have.**

▼ **Ask yourself the following questions:**

- What did this chapter teach me about how Jesus viewed himself, his mission, his relationship to God, and his relationship to others?
- What would I like to better understand about this chapter?
- What did I find challenging about this chapter?
- What did I learn as I tried to apply this chapter to my life?
- Would an outsider who read this chapter recognize that I was trying to apply it to my life?

▼ **Jesus explained his teaching to his disciples:**

With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything. – Mark 4:33-34 (NIV)

- Did you grow up in church without getting your questions answered?

- Did you grow up apart from church wondering what all the fuss was about?
- Either way, don't be afraid to start from scratch or start over from scratch with someone who can walk you through the Bible so that you can understand God's Kingdom.
- Read and listen to God's Word in community!

▼ Making Disciples:

▼ A Disciple is someone who is:

- Following Jesus
- Being changed by Jesus
- Committed to the mission of Jesus
- **We want to establish a disciple-making community.**

▼ Moralistic Therapeutic Deism

- [What You Should Know About Moralistic Therapeutic Deism](#) - YouTube (00:09:12)
- [Wikipedia: Moralistic Therapeutic Deism](#)

▼ Principal Elements

- 1) A God exists who created and ordered the world and watches over human life on earth.
- 2) God wants people to be good, nice, and fair to each other, as taught in the Bible and by most world religions.
- 3) The central goal of life is to be happy and to feel good about oneself.
- 4) God does not need to be particularly involved in one's life except when God is needed to resolve a problem.
- 5) Good people go to heaven when they die.

▼ Comments

- Introduced in the 2005 book "Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers" by the sociologist Christian Smith with Melinda Lundquist Denton.
- Result of the National Study of Youth and Religion.
- ▼ According to Kenda Creasy Dean, author of the 2010 book "Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers Is Telling the American Church":
 - "The problem does not seem to be that churches are teaching young people badly, but that we are doing an exceedingly good job of teaching youth what we really

believe: namely, that Christianity is not a big deal, that God requires little, and the church is a helpful social institution filled with nice people . . .”

▼ Observations

- ▼ MTD is an example of the fundamental human problem in the Bible:
 - ▼ People try figuring out good and bad on their own without God.
 - Adam and Eve took the fruit of the tree of knowing good and bad.
 - Solomon asked God for the knowledge of good and bad.
 - ▼ People construct their own path to God:
 - Other individual religions
 - Blending religions (e.g. “My Sweet Lord” by George Harrison).

▼ Video:

- [Xiaomany: Professor Shocks High School by Speaking Gen Z Slang](#) - YouTube (00:11:54)

▼ John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. **He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.**

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”) Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

▼ Observations

- Jesus came to “his own” (i.e. Israel), but most of them did not receive him. Those who did receive him were enabled to become God’s children.
- You are not automatically God’s child just because you are human!
- ▼ Those who “receive Jesus”:

- They don't try to fit Jesus into their preconceived categories.
- They embrace Jesus' words, definitions, and perspectives.

▼ Prohibitions On Sexual Immorality

▼ Video:

- [Bible Project: The Law](#) - (00:05:32)
- [Bible Project: Biblical Law](#) - (00:06:18)

▼ Leviticus 20

The LORD said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites: ‘Any Israelite or any foreigner residing in Israel who sacrifices any of his children to Molek is to be put to death. The members of the community are to stone him. I myself will set my face against him and will cut him off from his people; for by sacrificing his children to Molek, he has defiled my sanctuary and profaned my holy name. If the members of the community close their eyes when that man sacrifices one of his children to Molek and if they fail to put him to death, I myself will set my face against him and his family and will cut them off from their people together with all who follow him in prostituting themselves to Molek.

“I will set my face against anyone who turns to mediums and spiritists to prostitute themselves by following them, and I will cut them off from their people.

“Consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am the LORD your God. Keep my decrees and follow them. I am the LORD, who makes you holy.

“Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death. Because they have cursed their father or mother, their blood will be on their own head.

“If a man commits adultery with another man's wife —with the wife of his neighbor—both the adulterer and the adulteress are to be put to death.

“If a man has sexual relations with his father's wife, he has dishonored his father. Both the man and the woman are to be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

“If a man has sexual relations with his daughter-in-law, both of them are to be put to death. What they have done is a perversion; their blood will be on their own heads.

“If a man has sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They are to be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

“If a man marries both a woman and her mother, it is wicked. Both he and they must be burned in the fire, so that no wickedness will be among you.

“If a man has sexual relations with an animal, he is to be put to death, and you must kill the animal.

“If a woman approaches an animal to have sexual relations with it, kill both the woman and the animal. They are to be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

“If a man marries his sister, the daughter of either his father or his mother, and they have sexual relations, it is a disgrace. They are to be publicly removed from their people. He has dishonored his sister and will be held responsible.

“If a man has sexual relations with a woman during her monthly period, he has exposed the source of her flow, and she has also uncovered it. Both of them are to be cut off from their people.

“Do not have sexual relations with the sister of either your mother or your father, for that would dishonor a close relative; both of you would be held responsible.

“If a man has sexual relations with his aunt, he has dishonored his uncle. They will be held responsible; they will die childless.

“If a man marries his brother's wife, it is an act of impurity; he has dishonored his brother. They will be childless.

“ ‘Keep all my decrees and laws and follow them, so that the land where I am bringing you to live may not vomit you out. You must not live according to the customs of the nations I am going to drive out before you. Because they did all these things, I abhorred them. But I said to you, “You will possess their land; I will give it to you as an inheritance, a land flowing with milk and honey.” I am the LORD your God, who has set you apart from the nations.

“ ‘You must therefore make a distinction between clean and unclean animals and between unclean and clean birds. Do not defile yourselves by any animal or bird or anything that moves along the ground—those that I have set apart as unclean for you. You are to be holy to me because I, the LORD, am holy, and I have set you apart from the nations to be my own.

“ ‘A man or woman who is a medium or spiritist among you must be put to death. You are to stone them; their blood will be on their own heads.’ ”

▼ Observations

- There is a similar list of forbidden sexual activities in Leviticus 18.
- God has explicit requirements for how the Israelites were to live.
- God’s requirements for Israel extended to their sexuality.
- Adultery was to be punished by death.

▼ Parallel & Related Passages

▼ Leviticus 18

The LORD said to Moses, “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘I am the LORD your God. You must not do as they do in Egypt, where you used to live, and you must not do as they do in the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you. Do not follow their practices. You must obey my laws and be careful to follow my decrees. I am the LORD your God. Keep my decrees and laws, for the person who obeys them will live by them. I am the LORD.

“ ‘No one is to approach any close relative to have sexual relations. I am the LORD.

“ ‘Do not dishonor your father by having sexual relations with your mother. She is your mother; do not have relations with her.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with your father’s wife; that would dishonor your father.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with your sister, either your father’s daughter or your mother’s daughter, whether she was born in the same home or elsewhere.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with your son’s daughter or your daughter’s daughter; that would dishonor you.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with the daughter of your father’s wife, born to your father; she is your sister.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with your father’s sister; she is your father’s close relative.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with your mother’s sister, because she is your mother’s close relative.

“ ‘Do not dishonor your father’s brother by approaching his wife to have sexual relations; she is your aunt.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with your daughter-in-law. She is your son’s wife; do not have relations with her.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with your brother’s wife; that would dishonor your brother.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with both a woman and her daughter. Do not have sexual relations with either her son’s daughter or her daughter’s daughter; they are her close relatives. That is wickedness.

“ ‘Do not take your wife’s sister as a rival wife and have sexual relations with her while your wife is living.

“ ‘Do not approach a woman to have sexual relations during the uncleanness of her monthly period.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with your neighbor’s wife and defile yourself with her.

“ ‘Do not give any of your children to be sacrificed to Molek, for you must not profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with an animal and defile yourself with it. A woman must not present herself to an animal to have sexual relations with it; that is a perversion.

“ ‘Do not defile yourselves in any of these ways, because this is how the nations that I am going to drive out before you became defiled. Even the land was defiled; so I punished it for its sin, and the land vomited out its inhabitants. But you must keep my decrees and my laws. The native-born and the foreigners residing among you must not do any of these detestable things, for all these things were done by the people who lived in the land before you, and the land became defiled. And if you defile the land, it will vomit you out as it vomited out the nations that were before you.

“ ‘Everyone who does any of these detestable things—such persons must be cut off from their people. Keep my requirements and do not follow any of the detestable customs that were practiced before you came and do not defile yourselves with them. I am the LORD your God. ’ ”

▼ Observations

- There is a similar list of forbidden sexual activity in Leviticus 20.
- God has explicit requirements for how the Israelites were to live.
- God’s requirements for Israel extended to their sexuality.

▼ Deuteronomy 22:13-30

If a man takes a wife and, after sleeping with her, dislikes her and slanders her and gives her a bad name, saying, “I married this woman, but when I approached her, I did not find proof of her virginity,” then the young woman’s father and mother shall bring to the town elders at the gate proof that she was a virgin. Her father will say to the elders, “I gave my daughter in marriage to this man, but he dislikes her. Now he has slandered her and said, ‘I did not find your daughter to be a virgin.’ But here is the proof of my daughter’s virginity.” Then her parents shall display the cloth before the elders of the town, and the elders shall take the man and punish him. They shall fine him a hundred shekels of silver and give them to the young woman’s father, because this man has given an Israelite virgin a bad name. She shall continue to be his wife; he must not divorce her as long as he lives.

If, however, the charge is true and no proof of the young woman’s virginity can be found, she shall be brought to the door of her father’s house and there the men of her town shall stone her to death. She has done an outrageous thing in Israel by being promiscuous while still in her father’s house. You must purge the evil from among you.

If a man is found sleeping with another man’s wife, both the man who slept with her and the woman must die. You must purge the evil from Israel.

If a man happens to meet in a town a virgin pledged to be married and he sleeps with her, you shall take both of them to the gate of that town and stone them to death—the young woman because she was in a town and did not scream for help, and the man because he violated another man’s wife. You must purge the evil from among you.

But if out in the country a man happens to meet a young woman pledged to be married and rapes her, only the man who has done this shall die. Do nothing to the woman; she has committed no sin deserving death. This case is like that of someone who attacks and murders a neighbor, for the man found the young woman out in the country, and though the betrothed woman screamed, there was no one to rescue her.

If a man happens to meet a virgin who is not pledged to be married and rapes her and they are discovered, he shall pay her father fifty shekels of silver. He must marry the young woman, for he has violated her. He can never divorce her as long as he lives.

A man is not to marry his father's wife; he must not dishonor his father's bed.

▼ Observations

- God has explicit requirements for how the Israelites were to live.
- God's requirements for Israel extended to their sexuality.
- Adultery was to be punished by death.
- Although generally, both participants were to die, the law recognized degrees of culpability.

▼ John 7:53 - 8:11

*Then they all went home,
but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.*

At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

"No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

▼ Narrative

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▼ Observations

- Although passage is not in the oldest manuscripts, it does not violate any teaching found elsewhere in the New Testament and is compatible with the way Jesus is revealed elsewhere.
- The goal of the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees was to trap Jesus.
- Jesus' response forces them to confront their own spiritual condition.
- Jesus does not condemn the woman, but he does not excuse her sin either.

▼ Lessons

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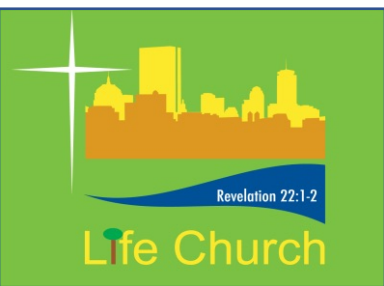
• Followup

► **Discussions, Q&A**



Jesus and the Adulteress

Sunday October 4, 2026



Welcome!



Visitor Page

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Questions? If you took the time to visit us, you deserve to get answers!

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Thoughts



- Acts 2:42-43 - The 4 Devotions:
 - the apostles' teaching
 - fellowship
 - the breaking of bread
 - prayer
- Cultural Rivers

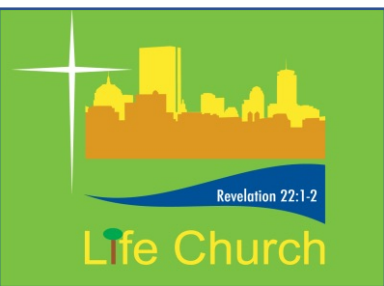


Overview



In today's message we will deal with the following:

- Why are we here?
 - Acts 2:29-39
 - Acts 17:29-31
- Review our passage – John 7:53 – 8:11
- Explore what Jesus is teaching us.
- Transition to Q&A / Discussion and Sunday Connection.



Feed on the Life of Jesus (1 of 4)

Are you “worded up”?

Eat his flesh; Drink his blood – John 6:53-59; 2 Samuel 23:13-17

Does the Word of Christ dwell in you richly (Colossians 3:16 - KJV)?

What if you read a Gospel every month - a chapter a day?

- The Gospel of Mark in October (10/1 – 10/16)
- The Gospel of Luke in November (11/1 – 11/24)
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- The Gospel of Matthew in January (1/1 – 1/28)



Feed on the Life of Jesus (2 of 4)



For October this means:

- Read Mark 3 on October 3 (yesterday).
- Read Mark 4 on October 4 (today).
- Read Mark 5 on October 5 (tomorrow).
- etc.



Feed on the Life of Jesus (3 of 4)

As you read, write down any questions you have.

Ask yourself the following questions:

- What did this chapter teach me about how Jesus viewed himself, his mission, his relationship to God, and his relationship to others?
- What would I like to better understand about this chapter?
- What did I find challenging about this chapter?
- What did I learn as I tried to apply this chapter to my life?
- Would an outsider who read this chapter recognize that I was trying to apply it to my life?



Feed on the Life of Jesus (4 of 4)

Jesus explained his teaching to his disciples:

With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything. – Mark 4:33-34 (NIV)

- Did you grow up in church without getting your questions answered?
- Did you grow up apart from church wondering what all the fuss was about?
- Either way, don't be afraid to start from scratch or start over from scratch with someone who can walk you through the Bible so that you can understand God's Kingdom.
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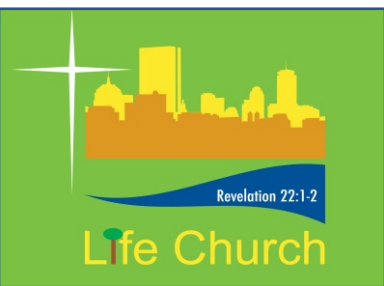
Discipleship Definition



A Disciple is someone who is:

- Following Jesus
- Being changed by Jesus
- Committed to the mission of Jesus

We want to establish a disciple-making community!



Moralistic Therapeutic Deism 1 of 3

Principal Elements (sounds good, but this is NOT Christianity):

1. A God exists who created and ordered the world and watches over human life on earth.
2. God wants people to be good, nice, and fair to each other, as taught in the Bible and by most world religions.
3. The central goal of life is to be happy and to feel good about oneself.
4. God does not need to be particularly involved in one's life except when God is needed to resolve a problem.
5. Good people go to heaven when they die.



Moralistic Therapeutic Deism 2 of 3

Comments

- Introduced in the 2005 book “Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers” by the sociologist Christian Smith with Melinda Lundquist Denton.
- Result of the National Study of Youth and Religion.
- According to Kenda Creasy Dean, author of the 2010 book “Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers Is Telling the American Church”:
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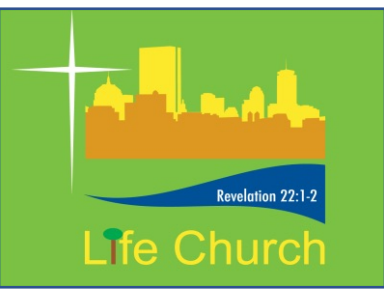
Moralistic Therapeutic Deism 3 of 3

- MTD is an example of the fundamental human problem in the Bible:
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Cultural Rivers: Gen Z Slang



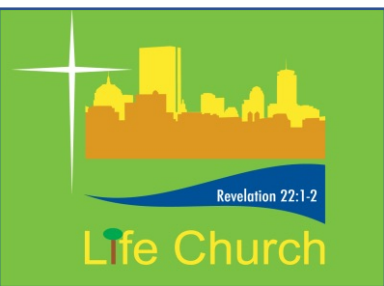


John 1:1-18 (NIV) 1 of 2

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. **He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.**



John 1:1-18 (NIV) 2 of 2

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”) Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.



Observations

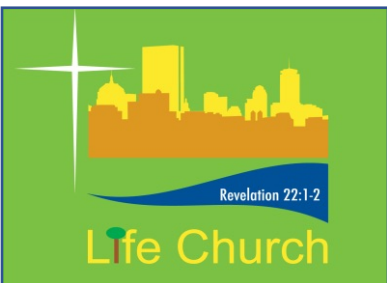


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Bible Project: Biblical Law





Leviticus 20 (NIV) 1 of 3

The LORD said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites: ‘Any Israelite or any foreigner residing in Israel who sacrifices any of his children to Molek is to be put to death. The members of the community are to stone him. I myself will set my face against him and will cut him off from his people; for by sacrificing his children to Molek, he has defiled my sanctuary and profaned my holy name. If the members of the community close their eyes when that man sacrifices one of his children to Molek and if they fail to put him to death, I myself will set my face against him and his family and will cut them off from their people together with all who follow him in prostituting themselves to Molek.

“ ‘I will set my face against anyone who turns to mediums and spiritists to prostitute themselves by following them, and I will cut them off from their people.

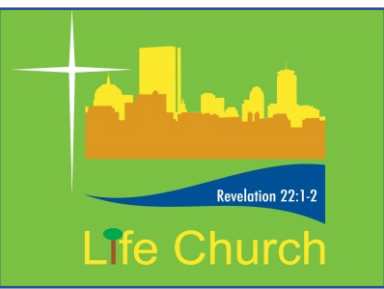
“ ‘Consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am the LORD your God. Keep my decrees and follow them. I am the LORD, who makes you holy.

“ ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death. Because they have cursed their **father or mother, their blood will be on their own head.**

“ ‘**If a man commits adultery with another man’s wife —with the wife of his neighbor—both the adulterer and the adulteress are to be put to death.**

“ ‘If a man has sexual relations with his father’s wife, he has dishonored his father. Both the man and the woman are to be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

“ ‘If a man has sexual relations with his daughter-in-law, both of them are to be put to death. What they have done is a perversion; their blood will be on their own heads.



Leviticus 20 (NIV) 2 of 3

“ ‘If a man has sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They are to be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

“ ‘If a man marries both a woman and her mother, it is wicked. Both he and they must be burned in the fire, so that no wickedness will be among you.

“ ‘If a man has sexual relations with an animal, he is to be put to death, and you must kill the animal.

“ ‘If a woman approaches an animal to have sexual relations with it, kill both the woman and the animal. They are to be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

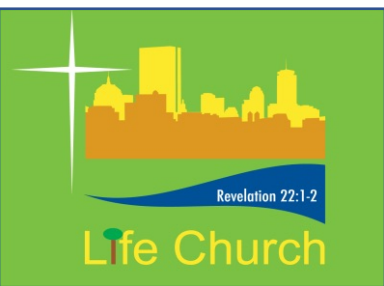
“ ‘If a man marries his sister, the daughter of either his father or his mother, and they have sexual relations, it is a disgrace. They are to be publicly removed from their people. He has dishonored his sister and will be held responsible.

“ ‘If a man has sexual relations with a woman during her monthly period, he has exposed the source of her flow, and she has also uncovered it. Both of them are to be cut off from their people.

“ ‘Do not have sexual relations with the sister of either your mother or your father, for that would dishonor a close relative; both of you would be held responsible.

“ ‘If a man has sexual relations with his aunt, he has dishonored his uncle. They will be held responsible; they will die childless.

“ ‘If a man marries his brother’s wife, it is an act of impurity; he has dishonored his brother. They will be childless.



Leviticus 20 (NIV) 3 of 3

“ ‘If a man marries his brother’s wife, it is an act of impurity; he has dishonored his brother. They will be childless.

“ ‘Keep all my decrees and laws and follow them, so that the land where I am bringing you to live may not vomit you out. You must not live according to the customs of the nations I am going to drive out before you. Because they did all these things, I abhorred them. But I said to you, “You will possess their land; I will give it to you as an inheritance, a land flowing with milk and honey.” I am the LORD your God, who has set you apart from the nations.

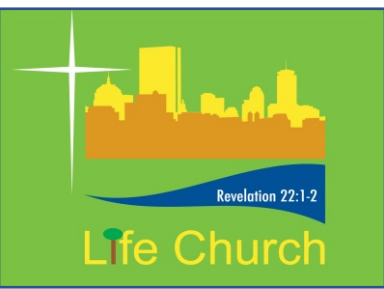
“ ‘You must therefore make a distinction between clean and unclean animals and between unclean and clean birds. Do not defile yourselves by any animal or bird or anything that moves along the ground—those that I have set apart as unclean for you. You are to be holy to me because I, the LORD, am holy, and I have set you apart from the nations to be my own.

“ ‘A man or woman who is a medium or spiritist among you must be put to death. You are to stone them; their blood will be on their own heads.’”



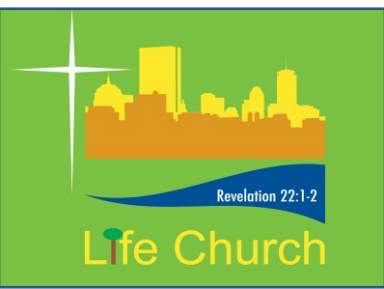
Observations

- There is a similar list of forbidden sexual activities in Leviticus 18.
- God has explicit requirements for how the Israelites were to live.
- God's requirements for Israel extended to their sexuality.
- Adultery was to be punished by death.



Deuteronomy 22:13-30 (NIV) 1 of 3

If a man takes a wife and, after sleeping with her, dislikes her and slanders her and gives her a bad name, saying, “I married this woman, but when I approached her, I did not find proof of her virginity,” then the young woman’s father and mother shall bring to the town elders at the gate proof that she was a virgin. Her father will say to the elders, “I gave my daughter in marriage to this man, but he dislikes her. Now he has slandered her and said, ‘I did not find your daughter to be a virgin.’ But here is the proof of my daughter’s virginity.” Then her parents shall display the cloth before the elders of the town, and the elders shall take the man and punish him. They shall fine him a hundred shekels of silver and give them to the young woman’s father, because this man has given an Israelite virgin a bad name. She shall continue to be his wife; he must not divorce her as long as he lives.

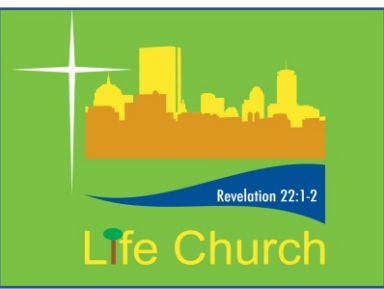


Deuteronomy 22:13-30 (NIV) 2 of 3

If, however, the charge is true and no proof of the young woman's virginity can be found, she shall be brought to the door of her father's house and there the men of her town shall stone her to death. She has done an outrageous thing in Israel by being promiscuous while still in her father's house. You must purge the evil from among you.

If a man is found sleeping with another man's wife, both the man who slept with her and the woman must die. You must purge the evil from Israel.

If a man happens to meet in a town a virgin pledged to be married and he sleeps with her, you shall take both of them to the gate of that town and stone them to death—the young woman because she was in a town and did not scream for help, and the man because he violated another man's wife. You must purge the evil from among you.



Deuteronomy 22:13-30 (NIV) 3 of 3

But if out in the country a man happens to meet a young woman pledged to be married and rapes her, only the man who has done this shall die. Do nothing to the woman; she has committed no sin deserving death. This case is like that of someone who attacks and murders a neighbor, for the man found the young woman out in the country, and though the betrothed woman screamed, there was no one to rescue her.

If a man happens to meet a virgin who is not pledged to be married and rapes her and they are discovered, he shall pay her father fifty shekels of silver. He must marry the young woman, for he has violated her. He can never divorce her as long as he lives.

A man is not to marry his father's wife; he must not dishonor his father's bed.



Observations



- God has explicit requirements for how the Israelites were to live.
- God's requirements for Israel extended to their sexuality.
- Adultery was to be punished by death.
- Although generally, both participants were to die, the law recognized degrees of culpability.



John 7:53 – 8:11 (NIV)

*Then they all went home,
but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.*

At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?”

They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”

*“No one, sir,” she said.
“Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”*



Narrative





Observations



- Although passage is not in the oldest manuscripts, it does not violate any teaching found elsewhere in the New Testament and is compatible with the way Jesus is revealed elsewhere.
- The goal of the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees was to trap Jesus.
- Jesus' response forces them to confront their own spiritual condition.
- Jesus does not condemn the woman, but he does not excuse her sin either.



Lessons

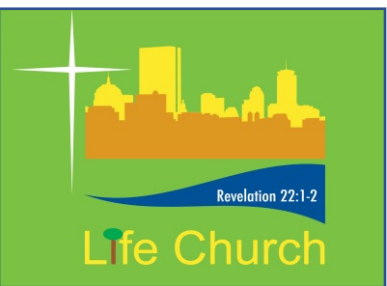


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Q&A / Discussion





Announcements



Visitor Page

- Sunday Service September 27, 2026
- Men's Bible Study Wed (9/30) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Sunday Service October 4, 2026
- Men's Bible Study Wed (10/07) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Sunday Service (Communion) October 11, 2026
- Men's Bible Study Wed (10/14) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Sunday Service October 18, 2026
- Men's Bible Study Wed (10/21) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Sunday Service October 25, 2026
- Men's Bible Study Wed (10/28) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom



Q&A / Discussion

