



Fireproof Your Heart and Mind
Pastor Frank A. Thomas
February 17, 2010

- I. Return to the lesson from Galatians 5:16-21 and Col. 3:5-1—(Gal 5:19 – lasciviousness)
 - a) The Spirit and the flesh are opposed – earthly versus heavenly;
 - b) Works of the flesh are fornication, impurity, lasciviousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousies, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, etc. – these amount to idolatry;
 - c) Lasciviousness is an inability to put on the brakes – an inability to stop – to come within borders, boundaries, limits, and controls;
 - d) This lesson is about “Fireproofing Your Heart and Mind” so that you overcome lasciviousness.

- II. The reason that we need to fireproof our lives is that we are idolaters at heart:
 - a) Fame, fortune, power, and possessions are gods – love others or things more than God;
 - b) Idolatry is a heart issue – an attempt to live outside the boundaries God sets and results in an inability to stop;
 - c) It starts small – David -- “maybe he could not avoid the first glance, but the stare was inexcusable”;
 - d) The incremental and inevitable process of lasciviousness -- “He saw and he sought,” “He sent and he inquired,” “He took her and lay with her,” then finally he had to plot murder;
 - e) Devil convinces us that we will be satisfied to fulfill a passion or appetite in a biblically inconsistent way – the more we feed it, the more it grows and cannot be filled – we cannot stop.

- III. Re-establish and Re-affirm Christ as the head of our lives – The Christ life is our strength
 - a) Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)
 - b) Set your mind on things above and not on things on earth – you have died and your life is hidden with Christ – (Col. 3:2-3)
 - c) Clothe yourself with your new self that is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator (Col. 3:10)
 - d) Live by the Spirit and do not gratify the desires of the flesh – Gal. 5:16
 - e) Let the one who thinks they stand take heed lest they fall (1 Cor. 10:12)
 - f) We are dead and alive at the same time – dead to sin and alive to Christ
 - g) Love this: You can’t kill life. You can tear up the form it assumes, crucify the body that it uses, but life itself cannot be touched – the resurrection is our guarantee that life cannot be killed

- IV. The take away application – for youth and adults
 - a) Be where you are supposed to be, when you are supposed to be there, doing what you are supposed to do;
 - b) When in doubt don’t
 - c) Give all your time to the positive and the negative will die from neglect
 - d) Cultivate wholesome and constructive thinking, helpful friends, good books, uplifting tastes and pursuits and only do the things that build up
 - e) Life is what you are alive to – child alive to baseball or ice cream cone. We must be alive to Christ