

PASSION AND PURITY

From the Series "Relationships, God's Way"

"The surrender of all our powers to God greatly simplifies the problem of life. It weakens and cuts short a thousand struggles with the passions of the natural heart.

"A little time spent in sowing your wild oats, dear young friends, will produce a crop that will embitter your whole life; an hour of thoughtlessness, once yielding to temptation, may turn the whole current of your life in the wrong direction. You can have but one youth; make that useful. When once you have passed over the ground, you can never return to rectify your mistakes. He who refuses to connect with God, and puts himself in the way of temptation will surely fall. God is testing every youth.

"Sensuality is the sin of the age. But the religion of Jesus Christ will hold the lines of control over every species or unlawful liberty: the moral powers will hold the lines of control over every thought, word, and action. Guile will not be found in the lips of the true Christian. Not an impure thought will be indulged in, not a word spoken that is approaching to sensuality, not an action that has the least appearance of evil.

"Do not see how close you can walk upon the brink of a precipice, and be safe. Avoid the first approach to danger. The soul's interests cannot be trifled with. Your capital is your character. Cherish it as you would a golden treasure. Moral purity, self-respect, a strong power of resistance, must be firmly and constantly cherished.

"As long as life shall last, there is need of guarding the affections and the passions with a firm purpose. There is inward corruption, there are outward temptations, and wherever the

work of God shall be advanced, Satan plans so to arrange circumstances that temptation shall come with overpowering force upon the soul. Not one moment can we be secure only as we are relying upon God, the life hid with Christ in God." {*Letters to Young Lovers*, p.63-64; White}

Covenant Challenges (Based Upon God's Promises to Us)

- 1) Covenant to surrender your life to Jesus every day of your life.
- 2) Covenant to save your virginity for your future husband or wife.
- 3) If you have already lost your virginity or if you have already started to have sex in your relationship, covenant to redeem the time and wait 'til you get married.
- 4) Covenant to carefully guard your heart in order to save it for your future or present husband or wife.
- 5) Covenant to save as much of your heart and body for your future husband or wife.

Suggested Reading: *Boy Meets Girl*; Joshua Harris