

You Should Know How To Possess Your Vessel

I. Introduction:

A. What are we going to be talking about regarding one's vessel? When you look up the Greek word we will find in our text today you find a long definition. In this lesson, we are talking about a vessel as in: "a metaphor for a body" (Strong's # 4632).

1. A vessel holds something (i.e. **John 19:29**).
2. What is it that the human body holds (**Genesis 2:7**, **I Corinthians 15:45**, and **James 2:26**)?

B. We exist, in the flesh, for a purpose (**Ecclesiastes 12:13-14** and **Ephesians 2:10**).

1. Our physical bodies are to be used to this end (**Romans 6:13; 6:19**).
2. It is not just our souls that we give to the Lord (**Romans 12:1**).

II. Body: **I Thessalonians 4:1-7**

A. Not rendering one's body to the sin of fornication (**I Corinthians 6:12-7:5**).

1. Rightly so, we often think of fornication as a fleshly sin (**Galatians 5:19**).
2. It doesn't start with the body though (**Matthew 15:18-20**).
3. So, to abstain from fornication one must not only control the flesh, but one must also control what's going on internally (**Proverbs 6:20-26**).

B. Considering the word "sanctification" as it appears in our text. Thinking about it from another Scripture that translates the same Greek word (Strong's # 38) as "holiness" being something we follow (**Hebrews 12:14**).

1. Being holy; sanctified, begins at conversion with God doing His part as we have done our part (**I Corinthians 6:9-11**).
2. However, it is upon us to continue in that state of sanctification; holiness (**Romans 6:22** and **II Timothy 2:19-22**).

C. Thinking about mind, body, and soul being blameless (**I Thessalonians 5:23**).

1. If I were to ask in a Bible study here, among the saints, how we show our love for God many would correctly say such is shown through obedience (**John 14:15**, **John 14:21-24**, **I John 2:3-6**, and **I John 5:1-3**).
2. Before that love shows in our actions, where does it first reside (**Deuteronomy 6:5** and **Mark 12:28-30**)?
3. Continuing the state of sanctification and being blameless in mind, body, and soul; comes back to love (**Ephesians 1:4**) from within (**Psalms 119:167**).
4. Using your body right starts internally (**Jeremiah 4:14; 29:13**).

III. Conclusion: Don't be a wasted vessel (**Mark 14:16-21**).