## Ancient Foolishness Part 1 <br> Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.
A. Sexual morality is one of the great challenges of the day.
B. It was a problem in ancient times too. (Romans 1)
C. Text: Ephesians 5.
D. The Christian position is diametrically opposed to sexual immorality. The Bible makes it clear that faithfulness to a partner or abstinence is key.
II. Reasons why sexual looseness is incompatible with the Christian life.
A. Sexual looseness is incompatible with Christianity because sexual looseness is defiling and debasing of humanity.

1. Christians are not permitted to talk about distortions of sex.
2. This does not mean that Christians are not permitted to talk about sex.
3. God's prohibitions in this regard are to keep us for something helpful and good.
4. Sex may be a bodily urge, but that does not mean it is not to be regulated.
5. Sex must be regulated by marriage.
6. It is both a physical and psychological union.
7. Sexual looseness is a violation of love. You cannot test the efficacy of a marriage by sex before marriage.
B. Even the talk that leads to sexual looseness is not fitting-it is useless.
8. When we expose ourselves to these forces, our drive breaks over its boundaries.
9. The facts teach us that the current studies on sex have only increased abuses.

## Application questions:

1. Explain why sexual looseness debases humanity.
2. How would you respond to someone saying that talk is cheap and that it is okay to talk about sexual looseness?
3. How can you maintain a sexually pure witness in light of the message? Give examples.
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