

The Family Time

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Luke 17:26 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.

Luke 17:27 They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

In our last session, we took a look at the counsel to the youth, regarding the sentimentalism that exists today, leading away from God. It must be clear, that not only are the youth subject to the seduction of the lusts of the flesh but we as adults should be warned concerning this pervasive problem. Listen to Adventist Home, page 328, paragraph 2:

"Love-sick sentimentalism prevails. Married men receive attention from married or unmarried women; women also appear to be charmed and lose reason and spiritual discernment, and good common sense; they do the very things that the Word of God condemns. Warnings and reproofs are before them in clear lines; yet they go over the same path that others have traveled before them. It is like an infatuating game at which they are playing. Satan leads them on to ruin themselves, to imperil the cause of God, to crucify the Son of God afresh, and put Him to an open shame. {AH 328.2}

We must understand the need to remain surrendered to the leadership of Heaven. We cannot, and must not allow immorality to grasp control of our lives. Adventist Home, page 330, paragraph 2 says:

- 1. Both Men and Women Must Keep Their Place and Live above Reproach.**--The mind of a man or woman does not come down in a moment from purity and holiness to depravity, corruption, and crime.
2. It takes time to transform the human to the divine, or to degrade those formed in the image of God to the brutal or the satanic.
3. By beholding we become changed. Though formed in the image of his Maker, man can so educate his mind that sin which he once loathed will become pleasant to him.
4. As he ceases to watch and pray, he ceases to guard the citadel, the heart, and engages in sin and crime.
5. The mind is debased, and it is impossible to elevate it from corruption while it is being educated to enslave the moral and intellectual powers and bring them in subjection to grosser passions.
6. Constant war against the carnal mind must be maintained; and we must be aided by the refining influence of the grace of God, which will attract the mind upward and habituate it to meditate upon pure and holy things. {AH 330.2}



Whatever your present situation, regardless of the habits that have taken control, it is only in Christ that you will find restoration. No matter how far you have fallen, He can heal. Adventist Home, page 331, paragraph 1 says:

There is no safety for any man, young or old, unless he feels the necessity of seeking counsel of God at every step. Those only who maintain a close communion with God will learn to place His estimate upon men, to reverence the pure, the good, the humble, the meek. The heart must be garrisoned as was that of Joseph. Then temptations to depart from integrity will be met with decision; 'How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?' The strongest temptation is no excuse for sin. No matter how severe the pressure brought to bear upon you, sin is your own act. The seat of the difficulty is the unrenewed heart. {AH 331.1}

What is it that Jesus wants for us? Listen to Adventist Home, page 99, paragraph 4:

Jesus Wants Happy Marriages.--The divine love emanating from Christ never destroys human love, but includes it. By it human love is refined and purified, elevated and ennobled. Human love can never bear its precious fruit until it is united with the divine nature and trained to grow heavenward. Jesus wants to see happy marriages, happy firesides. {AH 99.4}

If you are not interested in making the changes necessary for yourself, think of the impact these habits can have on your children

The more the animal passions are indulged, the stronger do they become, and the more violent will be their clamors for indulgence. Let God-fearing men and women awake to their duty. {2T 477.1}

1. From their youth up they have weakened the brain and sapped the constitution by the gratification of animal passions.
2. **Self-denial and temperance should be the watchword in their married life; then the children born to them will not be so liable to have the moral and intellectual organs weak, and the animal strong.**
3. Vice in children is almost universal. Is there not a cause?
4. Who have given them the stamp of character? May the Lord open the eyes of all to see that they are standing in slippery places! {2T 477.2}