

Lusts For All Ages

2 Tim. 2:22

Introduction:

- A. Lust is desire gone astray. (Cf. Jas. 1:14-15 KJV, NKV)
- B. Lust is not limited to any age group.
 - 1. There are “youthful lusts” (text)
 - 2. There are lust that affect older people (cf. 1 Cor. 9:27; Phile. 9)
- C. Lust is not limited to any one area of life — many and varied (1 Tim. 6:9; 2 Tim. 3:6)
 - 1. Vary in strength and kind within each age group.
 - 2. Vary with circumstances in life.

Discussion:

I. Some Desires Are Stronger When Young — Weaken with Age.

- A. Some youthful desires are strong and useful in our youth.
 - 1. The desire to mate — attraction to opposite sex (Gen. 2:18-25; 1 Cor 7:2-9).
 - 2. The desire to discover and experiment (Aids learning, provokes research).
 - 3. The desire for independence (Aids “leave and cleave”; develops work ethic (cf. 2 Thess 3:10)
- B. Same youthful desires can become “harmful lusts.”
 - 1. The desire to mate perverted into sexual immorality (Mt. 5:28, 32; Gal. 5:19).
 - 2. The desire to discover perverted into moral and doctrinal experimentation (cf. Rom. 16:19).
 - 3. The desire for independence perverted:
 - a. Peer acceptance become symbol independence from authority (cf. 1 Pet. 4:1-4).
 - b. Reject and resent helpful counsel of age and experience (1 Pet. 5:5).
- C. Strong youthful lusts have not shortage of avenues that often appear innocent.
 - 1. School proms: Sex drive, discovery and peer acceptance.
 - 2. Alcohol and drug scene: sense of discovery and independence.
 - 3. Uncontrolled “discussion” groups and classes — Easily degenerate into mere probing of “untaught and unlearned” questions (cf. 2 Tim. 2:23; Deut. 29:29).

II. Some Desires Become Stronger with Age — Increase with Years.

- A. The desire for physical and financial security seems to increase.
 - 1. Need it to protect us from hurting ourselves as strength of youth fails.
 - 2. Need it to take provide for ourselves after lose ability to work.
- B. The desire for immortality seems to increase — makes more spiritually minded.
- C. These desires can be turned into many hurtful lusts.
 - 1. The desire for security can become a lust.
 - a. Become overly suspicious and threatened by youth.
 - b. Become greedy and selfish about money and things (cf. 1 Tim. 6:9).
 - 2. The desire for immortality can become a lust.
 - a. Try to recapture youth by proving capable of youthful lusts.
 - b. Make fools of selves and lose stabilizing influence by trying be peers to youth.

Conclusion:

- A. Let us understand what lust is — don’t mistake it for mere desire.
- B. Let us understand that lusts differ from person to person.
- C. Let us understand that we must flee lust of any kind at any age.