

#RELATIONSHIPGOALS GOD'S DESIGN FOR SEX

GENESIS 1:26-28; 2:18-25



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SEX WAS GOD'S IDEA.

Foundational facts...

- Sex is a gift from God to be enjoyed within heterosexual monogamous marriage.
- God calls us to say “No” to a big negative so we can say “Yes” to a huge positive. We say “No” to sexual immorality, lust, and adultery so we can say “Yes” to guilt-free sex within marriage where the focus is the glory of God through serving your spouse rather than an enslaving goal of personal sexual fulfillment.
- Two distinctions set Christianity apart from the Greco-Roman world: First, exclusive worship of Jesus Christ as God: Rejection of idol worship. Second, exclusive sexual monogamy: Sex is reserved for monogamous heterosexual marriage.¹
- “But we Christians look upon ourselves as one body, informed as it were by one soul; and being thus incorporated by love . . . among us all things are in common, excepting wives . . . and this is the only thing you enjoy in common; for you not only make no conscience in violating the wife of your friend, but with amazing patience and gratitude lend him your own.”² – Tertullian, *The Apology* (155-240 A. D.)
- “In the end, Christianity triumphed in its early Greco-Roman context not because it was the same as the surrounding pagan culture, but because it was different.”³ – Michael Kruger
- Effects of the Sexual Revolution: “One effect of the sexual revolution has been to subordinate children, and the duties owed them, to the desires of adults. Marriage has been redefined so as to serve, rather than constrain, adult desire.” – Julia Yost⁴

Genesis 1:26-28

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Genesis 2:18-25

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."¹⁹ Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.²⁰ The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.²² And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.²³ Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Sex was God's idea for...

1. **Procreation** – *"Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth..."* Genesis 1:28
2. **Cementing** the family unit together – *"Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."* Genesis 2:24
3. **Pleasure** – *The Song of Solomon*: An entire book of the Bible is dedicated to romantic love within marriage.

¹Michael Kruger, "One Trait that Set Apart the Earliest Christians," *The Gospel Coalition*, October 28, 2014, <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/one-trait-that-set-apart-the-earliest-christians/>.

²Tertullian, *The Apology of Tertullian and the Meditations of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius*, trans. W. M. Reeve and Jeremy Collier (London: Newberry House, 1889), 111.

³Kruger, *ibid*.

⁴Julia Yost, "Children of Desire," review of Richard Beck, *We Believe the Children: A Moral Panic in the 1980s*, (New York: Public Affairs, 2015), in *First Things* (November 2013): 53.