

Profanity: The Spiritual Destruction Of Society

Presented by www.free-bible-study-lessons.com

Permission granted to active Joshua Club Members to use and reproduce.

What impact does profanity have on society? Why does it increase as a society moves downward to destruction? What spiritual and physical destruction does it bring? Is there a difference between different types of swearing or cursing? What about the mild "Christian" profanity? Does it have an impact on society? Read on to discover the answers to these and other questions.

"God is a Spirit..." John 4:24 "And God said..." Gen. 1:3

What is this thing called language? Let's begin with who we are.

God is a Spirit. One of the first things we learn about God is that He speaks. In fact, nothing happened until God spoke. Words were the instrument that God used to bring into being all that is. Words are how God the Spirit operates and communicates.

God made us in His image. He made us as spirit and body. We are spirits who live in a house. Our body is the home in which our spirits lives. When our body dies, our spirit doesn't die, but either goes to heaven or hell [depending on our relationship to Jesus Christ]. Ultimately our bodies will be resurrected and united again with our spirits. Both our physical and spiritual aspects are vital to who we are and neither is to be condemned or treated lightly.

As spirits we operate the same way that God does. No, we can't use words to create something out of nothing. However, our words communicate - whether we want them to or not - who we really are. Are our words angry? deceptive? bitter? profane? Our spirit is laid bare by our words to those with eyes to see.

Words are how spirits grow and develop. For example, who you are today and how you act is based on the words you have heard AND

2

accepted into your life. If you have been surrounded by encouraging words, you probably have a positive outlook on life. If you have been surrounded by discouraging words, you probably have a more negative outlook. Individuals, families, churches, business, and even nations are basically built on words and how people act on those words. That is just the way spirits operate.

Now what is profanity? "Profane" comes from two words: before and temple. Profanity is a religious act. For many people it has become so common that the religious undercurrents are unconscious, but all profanity is making a religious statement. It reveals what is really going on in their spirit.

1. Profanity is a type cursing. Cursing is the attempt to bring destruction. All cursing is not wrong. God cursed Satan in the form of the serpent [Gen. 3:14] for bringing sin into the world. God was declaring His ultimate intention of destroying Satan and all his works. Later, in verse 17, the ground was cursed as a punishment for Adam. That curse greatly reduced the productivity of the soil and caused hinderances such as weeds and thorns to grow.

The only curse that man is allowed to do is to curse that which God has already cursed. In other words, we are agreeing with God that righteousness shall prevail and sin will be destroyed.

The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the righteous. Pr. 3:33, NIV

How can I curse those whom God has not cursed? How can I denounce those whom the LORD has not denounced? Nu. 23:8, NIV

The Christian does not have to be afraid of God's curse. He is protected and blessed by the Blood of Christ. Neither does he need to be afraid of the curses of the ungodly. For God will not listen to those who curse people whom He has blessed.

3

However, the LORD your God would not listen to Balaam but turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loves you. Deut. 23:5, NIV

You have as little to fear from an undeserved curse as from the dart of a wren or the swoop of a swallow. Pr. 26:2, NIV

Profanity can be the selfish attempt to bring God's power against someone or something which we don't like. It is attempting to manipulate God into destroying something for our personal advantage or because it is a personal inconvenience. This kind of profanity is blasphemy.

Consider the term "Oh my God" when used simply as an expression of surprise, or in some other "loose" way. Even Christians often fall into this trap. Yet "my God" is a covenant term [see Covenants course]. It is for Christians who need to call on their covenant relationship with God for some reason. Jesus used the term on the cross. It is a serious term for serious people. The devil loves to see it defiled and diluted as a common expression on the lips of pre-Christians, non-Christians, and Christians alike. We need to be careful.

2. Profanity is an attempt to bring destruction on someone or something. It's intention is to bring them down to our own advantage. This may seem like point one, but it does not necessarily look to God as the source of power.

When someone uses profanity - whether they consciously realize it or not - they are calling on what they consider to be the ultimate power in the universe to come to their aid.

For example, popular sexual profanity looks to sex as the ultimate power in the world. Every time those words come out of someone's mouth, even if it is thoughtless and habitual, they are declaring that they consider sex to be the power to bring destruction. They are shouting who their god is: Sex. This is Baal and Astroth reborn. Down through history there have always been those who worshipped sex.

Another example, those who take the Lord's name in vain are attempting to curse and devalue God. Unconsciously perhaps, they are calling on the powers of the occult to destroy God. They are trying to destroy the name of Jesus and make it of no value. Naturally they cannot succeed, but they reveal to whom they really look for the true source of their power.

What about common, crude "bathroom words" such as s___ and c___ which are even found on the lips of Christians? It reveals a commitment to the ancient chaos cults. The idea is that everything must be degraded and destroyed in order to bring in a "new world." It is the idea behind marxist revolution: destroy society in order to rebuild a new society. It is the thought that you have to "hit bottom" before you can go up. So it seeks to hit bottom [this is the religious commitment behind many sexual perversions] in order that it may bounce up in new birth. It is a satanic counterfeit of God's plan of rebirth through Christ.

There is no purpose in profanity other than destruction. It may aim at the destruction of an individual or it may be a general attempt to devalue and destroy a society or civilization in general. In fact, profanity is a good measure of where a society is at. If profanity is rare, society is moving toward a happy and stable position. If profanity is common, then society is falling toward ultimate destruction. But there will be no satanic rebirth. It is not that profanity directly causes society to fail. but it is a good reflection of where a society is at.

They jeer, using words to kill; they bully their way with words. They're full of hot air, loudmouths disturbing the peace. People actually listen to them—can you believe it? Like thirsty puppies, they lap up their words.
Ps. 73:9-10, The Message

What about so-called "Christian" swearing where a person substitutes a meaningless word for an offensive word. For example, we use words such as darn or frige instead of other offensive words. Is that a good thing to do? It still devalues language. It dilutes what God has made to be good and healthy communication. At the very least, it shows that the person is unable to express themselves clearly and/or to control their emotions. It

5

reveals an area of life that they need to work on in order to reach a mature walk with Christ. We all have such areas, but the solution is not to ignore them or minimize them. The solution is to work on them with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Words are important. They should be chosen carefully with the intent of building up our lives, other people, and society in general. In other words, we are to be people of blessing.

Cursing is not simply limited to using "bad" words. As stated above, it is the attempt to bring destruction. This can be by using any words to hurt or discourage anyone. Many times a day we may attempt to bring cursing into someone else's life by angry, hurtful, or inconsiderate words. This is sin. Our mouths must be cleansed.

"You have minds like a snake pit! How do you suppose what you say is worth anything when you are so foul-minded? It's your heart, not the dictionary, that gives meaning to your words. A good person produces good deeds and words season after season. An evil person is a blight on the orchard. Let me tell you something: Every one of these careless words is going to come back to haunt you. There will be a time of Reckoning. Words are powerful; take them seriously. Words can be your salvation. Words can also be your damnation." Matt. 12:34-37, The Message

So what can we do about this? Watch our own language. We cannot change others, only ourselves. As we become people of blessing and not cursing we open the doors to blessing in our own lives. Plus we have the joy of working with God in building others up. We need to value this gift of language.

Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips. Ps. 141:3, NIV

This, of course, does not mean that people in authority can never bring correction or discipline. However, it needs to be carefully considered and brought in a way which seeks the person's highest good and is not degrading. Somethings tough things have to be said or done, but it is to

seeking the benefit of the one spoken to or the protection of those under their influence.

In our society it is impossible to avoid hearing profanity and cursing. We need to be so careful not to take it into our spirits. We are protected by the Blood of Christ. Profanity, although painful to listen to, can bounce off of us without causing harm. We need to come to the Word of God and worship Christ to have our minds continually cleansed.

What about profanity that can be avoided? Profanity [and other evil things] can come into songs, TV, movies, books, etc. How should we react? We need to be aware that what we put into our minds, especially voluntarily, will influence our lives. What should we do?

Some Christians simply avoid the items which they know will contain offensive material. This is one solution and it is 100% effective.

Another solution, in regard to TV and movies, is to use a product such as TV Guardian [do an internet search]. This product mutes offensive words and uses the closed captioning to turn it into "Christian" swearing. It makes it less offensive. It works well on video tapes, and I assume TV although I don't watch TV, as long as the program contains the closed captioning feature. It works on most DVDs if they have traditional closed captioning. Of course, this only works on profanity, but not on offensive visual scenes.

A company called Clear Play also provides a DVD player and filters for many movies. What it will do is "skip" over offensive words and scenes.

Personally, I use a combination of all of the above. There are products I completely avoid and will not have in my home. I have TV Guardian connected to my TV for DVD's and I also have a Clear Play DVD player. You have to decide for yourself before God and your conscience what you will or will not accept and how you will deal with avoidable profanity. If you have other solutions, let me know and I may share them here as well. One thing is certain: We cannot afford to take it lightly. It impacts us and our families.

STUDY GUIDE FOR Profanity: The Spiritual Destruction Of Society

Presented by www.free-bible-study-lessons.com

Permission granted to active Joshua Club Members to use and reproduce.

1. God is a _____.
2. One of the first things we learn about God is that He _____.
3. _____ are how God the Spirit operates and communicates.

God is a Communicator. If we are not hearing from God we can be sure it is not God's fault. We have to clear our thinking, study His Word, and spend quiet time in His presence. God is talking, are we listening?

4. God made us as spirit and _____.
5. Both our physical and spiritual aspects are _____ to who we are and neither is to be condemned or treated lightly.

Some believe that we have three major parts: spirit, mind, and body. I have included the mind in the spirit part of man. No matter how you want to technically divide the human being, the end result is the same.

6. As spirits we _____ the same way that God does.
7. Our spirit is laid _____ by our words to those with eyes to see.

If you want to really know what is in a person's heart, listen to their words. I mean really listen, sometimes there are words behind the words. A person may spin a web of deceit and lies but their words will betray them in the end. Often when a person is angry or loses control of themselves we see what is really in their hearts. It is in those times that they are not suppressing themselves to present an image they want people to see. Many times the ugliness of the human heart is laid bare. If it is not inside, it cannot come out [Mark 7:20-23]. We should take note of ourselves. How

do we act and what do we say when we are angry. It gives us a picture inside our own hearts and should drive us to repentance for many things besides anger!

In the above, I am not saying that we should blurt out everything so people can see the “real” us. We need self-control or the deceptive depravity of the human heart would repulse everyone! We would delight Satan by tearing down and destroying everyone around us. What we do need to do is come to Christ for constant cleansing. Our words and actions should be constantly maturing to reflect to the truth of Christ in our hearts.

8. Words are how _____ grow and develop.
9. Who you are today and how you act is based on the words you have heard AND _____ into your life.
10. Individuals, families, churches, business, and even nations are basically built on _____ and how people act on words.

It is important we realize that in order for words to impact us we have to accept and believe them. Words are flung at us all day. Many words are lies or negative put-downs. These do not have to effect us. If we reject them and refuse to believe them, then they can bounce off of us [Pr. 26:2]. If we accept them and mediated on them then they will be built into our lives and effect us. This is one vital reason that we know who God says we are. When we know who we are in God we will know which words to accept and which words to reject.

11. " _____ " comes from two words: before and temple.
12. Profanity is a _____ act.
13. Profanity is a type _____.
14. All _____ is not wrong.

15. The only curse that man is allowed to do is to curse that which God has already _____.
16. The Christian does not have to be _____ of God's curse.
17. God will not _____ to those who curse people whom He has blessed.

Some Christians are fearful of the occult and witchcraft. These can be powerful forces. Satan is probably the most powerful created being. Nevertheless, he and all his forces were defeated at the Cross. The Christian who understands who he is in Christ is not afraid of the occult or of the power of Satan. We should never be arrogant or fight in our own strength, but in Christ there is nothing to fear either.

18. Profanity can be the selfish attempt to bring God's _____ against someone or something which we don't like.
19. " _____ " is a covenant term.
20. Profanity is an attempt to bring _____ on someone or something.
21. When someone uses profanity - whether they consciously realize it or not - they are calling on what they consider to be the _____ power in the universe to come to their aid.
22. Down through history there have always been those who worshipped _____.
23. Those who take the Lord's name in vain are attempting to curse and devalue _____.

24. Use of crude "bathroom words" reveal a commitment to the ancient _____.
25. It is the thought that you have to "hit bottom" before you can go _____.
26. Chaos cults are satanic counterfeit of God's plan of _____ through Christ.
27. There is no purpose in profanity other than _____.
28. It is not that profanity directly causes _____ to fail but it is a good reflection of where a society is at.
29. "Christian" swearing _____ what God has made to be good and healthy communication.
30. We are to be people of _____.
31. Many times a day we may attempt to bring _____ into someone else's life by angry, hurtful, or inconsiderate words.
32. As we become people of blessing and not cursing we open the doors to _____ in our own lives.
33. We need to value this gift of _____.
34. We need to be so careful not to take profanity into our _____.
35. We need to come to the _____ and worship Christ to have our minds continually cleansed.

36. What we put into our _____, especially voluntarily, will influence our lives.

Other Courses or Articles Of Interest:

www.free-bible-study-lessons.com/hell.html

www.free-bible-study-lessons.com/death.html

www.free-bible-study-lessons.com/covenants.html

www.free-bible-study-lessons.com/blood-covenant.html

www.free-bible-study-lessons.com/who-is-Jesus.html

www.free-bible-study-lessons.com/ungodly-society.html

ANSWER KEY FOR
Profanity: The Spiritual Destruction Of Society

1. Spirit
2. speaks
3. Words
4. body
5. vital
6. operate
7. bare
8. spirits
9. accepted
10. words
11. Profane
12. religious
13. cursing
14. cursing
15. cursed
16. afraid
17. listen
18. power
19. My God
20. destruction
21. ultimate
22. sex
23. God
24. chaos cults
25. up
26. rebirth
27. destruction
28. society
29. dilutes
30. blessing
31. cursing
32. blessing
33. language
34. spirits
35. Word of God
36. minds