## Give Yourself to the Things of God

Scripture reading: Ezekiel 8:13

Let us read in Ezekiel 8:13 and while reading it, let us remember that it is in the "chambers of our imagery," it is in our mind that our problem lies.

"He said also unto me, Turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations that they do. Then he brought me to the door of the gate of the LORD'S house which was toward the north; and, behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz."

Women weeping for Aphrodite; women weeping for Tammuz.

You know, Tammuz, this god of sex, is the god that they weep for at Easter. I do not know if you understand all these things, but at Easter they would fast for forty days—we call it Lent now. The heathen would spend forty days fasting and afflicting their souls because of the death of Nimrod, who they called Tammuz. They would weep for forty days, and on what we would call Easter (resurrection) morning they would come out with dances and flowers and give their bodies unto fornication as a tribute to Tammuz.

You say, "Oh, we in this modern time do not do those kinds of things!" But how many young girls are weeping in their secret places over this Tammuz? They want to be married, they want to have their own husbands; and when they say they want to, they are not thinking of serving God, they are not thinking of having someone to serve God with, but they are thinking of having pleasures. How many married people live for nothing but having this pleasure? Men and women, going to excess—morning, noon, and night! Living upon nothing but this sexual urge that is driving them.

Some people think of sex more than they actually do it. It is almost a twenty-four hour operation! Your minds are being blocked by a spirit!

I am not just talking about sex, you know. I am talking about a spirit that works many different things. ANGER! I have known a Christian brother that threatened his wife with divorce, because the poor woman was worn out. He threatened her with divorce because she was worn out and could not go with him. Do you understand me? Eventually, they had to be divorced.

Do you not understand what the Bible shows? That God gave Eve to Adam; that they should live in unity; that they should become one. That, if my hand is paining, I do not demand that hand lift a hundred pounds! I sympathize with my hand, and although I want to lift the weight, I say, "No, let me suffer! Let ME suffer!" The Bible says in Ephesians that the marriage between man and woman is as Christ and the Church, Who gave Himself for the Church! Isn't that what the Word of God says? You must give yourselves! Men, you must give yourselves for your wives. Wives, you must give yourselves for your husbands; and when the husbands are busy with the things of the Lord, encourage them!

You must have principle in your lives. (Now, I am talking here to both the men and the women.) You cannot go on a mission with the gospel and be involved in marital relationships at the same time. I am saying this because God shows that the way He made man is that man can only concentrate fully upon one thing at a time! The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 7:5 that you must fast and give yourselves to the things of the Lord, and then come back together, by agreement, so that the devil does not tempt you!

Brethren, let us give ourselves to the things of the Lord so that He would give us strength to overcome.

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*Thought for today:* Establish righteous principles in your life that you would rather suffer than bring pollution to your soul and to your home.