

## “FORNICATION”

This great sin can be noticed all through the Old & New Testaments as being a sin that has brought havoc to many people through the ages. Space is given for this sin in I Cor. 6 and the great affect it has on one's body - this passage says it is a sin against the body! Where you find lists of different sins, almost always there will be the sin of “fornication” or “adultery listed – Gal. 5. This can, and is, a sin **against** God, Self, Husband, Wife, Children, Parents, the Lord's church and a host of other things that are not named at present.

May I mention there is an **alarm** set in motion concerning the enormity of such a sin? *“18 Flee fornication,”* I Cor. 6:18. According to this passage, such is a sin against oneself: *“18 ..... Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body,”* I Cor. 6:18. Each person should remember this is a sin against God also, I Jno. 3:4, *“4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law for sin is the transgression of the law,”* (kiv). Consider also, fornication is used with reference to homosexuality, Jude 7. Thus, persons having sexual relations with someone other than his/her husband or wife is called fornication; also, those who would have a sexual act with those of the **same sex** are called **“fornicators.”**

It is not uncommon for people **to live together outside** of the marriage relationship – the bible calls this **fornication**. Those who want to describe such relationships as “trial marriage” are living as fornicators. When a man lives with a man; or, a woman lives with a woman, this is in the area of fornication and causes these people to be **fornicators**.

Paul's instructions to the Corinthians, causes us to realize the great sin involved in such, I Cor. 5:9-13, *“9 I wrote unto you in my epistle to have no company with fornicators; 10 not at all meaning with the fornicators of this world, or the covetous and extortioner, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world: 11 but as it is, I wrote unto you not to keep company, if any man that is named a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner, with such a one no, not to eat. 12 For what have I to do with judging them that are without? Do not ye judge them that are within? 13 But them that are without God judgeth. Put away the wicked man from among yourselves.”* The brethren at Corinth did just that. According to II Cor. 2, the erring brother was withdrawn from and they are told to **“forgive him,”** he repented and came back.

The **reason** for all of this is described in I Cor. 5:6-8, *“6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? 7 Purge out the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, even as ye are unleavened. For our Passover also hath been sacrificed, even Christ: 8 Wherefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”*

Fornication and related sins, I Cor 5:11, are not to be tolerated in a congregation of the Lord's people. We all should **“flee fornication,”** I Cor. 6:18.

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