**Scripture:** Exodus 20:1-17 and Leviticus 18

**Singing:** 309:1-4 – 65:1, 3 – 322:1-4 – 143:1, 3 – 435:1, 7. 9

How can *breaking one commandment* make me guilty of all? (James 2:10)

A. Makes sense when we see the Law as ‘one Law of love’

 1. Not only *makes each sin* us guilty

 2. Also each sin is worthy of *death* (separation)

B. Reminder: *purpose Law is to reflect God in His loving (holy) nature*

 1. Consider the similarity between the *1st* and the *7th* commandment

 a. both deal with relationships and the breach of it

b. both have the same intent: *protection of a something precious*

**Purity of Sexual Passion**

I. What is function? II. What boundaries of the

expression of sex passions? III. What is reason of God’s boundaries?

**I. What is the function of sexual passion?**

A. God created us people *with sexual needs and desires*

 1. these ‘natural needs’ are therefore not *sinful it themselves*

 2. therefore God speaks *positive* about sexual life (in marriage)

 a. Proverbs 5:14-15; Song of Solomon 4-5; Hebrews 13:4

 b. God’s design in the creation of our bodies is intended to *deepen*

 *joy of the relationship in sexual intimacy*

 3. In 1 Cor. 7 God *commands* sexual relationship in marriage

B. How destructive is *our fall from purity and godliness* as related to the 7th!

 1. The fall didn’t *diminish the sexual needs*

 2. Our Fall *made us selfish in focus and slaves to carnal (sexual) lust*

a. to curb this sin of lust from destroying us, God legislated the 7th

**II. What are the boundaries God established for sexual expression?**

A. The boundary is the *marriage* *covenant* (Genesis 2:24)

 1. the ‘one flesh’ relationship is *far more than sexual but is included!*

B. Other boundaries drawn in Scripture as our *Creator’s will*

 1. Any sexual activity between unmarried people is forbidden

a. Gen. 2:24; 1 Thess. 4:3-7

 2. Any sexual activity between unmarried-married person is forbidden:

 a. referred to as adultery

 b. since this infidelity is so serious Jesus *allows* divorce(Matt. 19:9)

 3. Any sexual activity between **family members** is forbidden (Lev. 18)

 a. called sin of ***incest***(Lev. 18:6)

 b. called ***child abuse*** if adults have sexual relations with children

4. Any sexual activity between *people of same sex* as well as *with*

 *animals* (Lev. 18:22-23)

 a. NT maintains this commandment (Romans 1)

 b. Be compassionate: *same-sex attraction does exist though it*

 *cannot be expressed*

 5. Any sexual imaginations with others than your spouse: Matt. 5:27-29

 a. this commandment speaks to *both men and women*

 ● no one is excused to sin

 ● none are allowed to be *agent of temptations*

 - as a woman towards a man (eye-gate)

 - as a man towards a woman (feel-gate 1 Cor. 7:1)

6. Jesus teaching in Matt. 5 also applies to *pornography*

a. all interaction with pornography is *destructive*

 ● creates patterns – sex addictions – leads to violence

● exploits the vulnerable – boys/girls – men/women

**III. What is God’s intention in these clear instructions of His will?**

A. Our loving and caring Creator wants to *protect what is beautiful!*

 1. The picture of the *flower bud and flower*

a. He seeks to protect the eventual flower with His boundaries

b. He seeks to protect the most precious earthly relationships

B. Therefore His laws are not *rigid rules to restraint* but *provisions to*

 *protect pure pleasure*