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**Ps. 119:9 KJB** How will a young man make his way clean?... – *Good Question!*

## Romance is For Marriage!

**Mat 19:5-6 KJB** "... He who made *them* at the beginning made them **male and female**, 5 And said, **For this cause** a man will leave father and mother, and will **be joined to his wife**; and the two will be into one flesh? 6 Because of this, they are no longer two, but one flesh. So what God has joined together let no man put space between.

(Notice that the dynamic "male and female" distinction is for marriage, not "dating")

**Pro 18:22 KJB** *He who* finds a wife finds a good *thing*, and obtains **favor** from the LORD...

- "...Favour - Obtains her not by his own diligence, but by God's good providence." (John Wesley's Explanatory Notes on the Whole Bible)
- A good spouse is obtained by God's favor, but you are destined for sorrow if you go looking for one by applying your own efforts. Taking "Test Drives" & "Shopping" are hazardous and unbiblical.

## God Judges Indulging in Premarital Romance

**Isa 3:16 WEB** Moreover Yahweh said, "Because the daughters of Zion are **proud**, And walk with outstretched necks and **flirting eyes**, Walking to trip as they go, Jingling ornaments on their feet; 17 Therefore the Lord brings **sores on the crown of the head** of the women of Zion, And **Yahweh will make their scalps bald**." 18 In that day the Lord will take away the beauty of their anklets, the headbands, the crescent necklaces, 19 the earrings, the bracelets, the veils, 20 the headdresses, the ankle chains, the sashes, the perfume bottles, the charms, 21 the signet rings, the **nose rings**, 22 the fine robes, the capes, the cloaks, the purses, 23 the hand-mirrors, the fine linen garments, the tiaras, and the shawls. 24 It shall happen that instead of sweet spices, there shall be rottenness; Instead of a belt, a rope; Instead of well set hair, baldness; Instead of a robe, a girding of sackcloth; And branding instead of beauty.

**Pro 6:25 KJB** Do not lust after her beauty in your heart; nor let her take you captive with her eyelids. (Also see: Pro 5:3-4 & 8-10, 6:25-28, 7:21-26; And also: Rom 13:13 & 1Pet 4:3 –"Walking in Wantonness")

## Purity Means Avoiding Premarital Romance

**1Ti 2:9 KJB** In the same way as well, that women adorn themselves in modest clothing, with **shamefacedness**<sup>127</sup> and soberness; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly clothing...

**Greek:** Strong's G127 αἰδώς aidōs *ahee-doce'*

Perhaps from G1 (as a negative particle) and G1492 (through the idea of **downcast eyes**); **bashfulness**, that is, (**towards men**), **modesty** or (towards God) **awe**: - reverence, shamefacedness.

## Purity Means Treating Girls "As Sisters"

**1Tim 5:1-2 KJB** Don't rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father; the younger men as brothers; 2 the elder women as mothers; the younger **as sisters**, with all **purity**.

## Purity Means "Don't Go Beyond" Proper Limits into Premarital Romance

**1Th 4:2-9 KJB** Because you know what **commandments** we gave you by the Lord Jesus, 3 because this is the will of God, **your holiness**, that you should **abstain from fornication**: 4 That every one of you know how to possess his own vessel in holiness and honor; 5 **Not in the passion of lust just as, also, the nations** [non-Jews] **who don't know God**: 6 That no one go beyond [i.e. the limits] and defraud [or overreach or steal from] his brother in this matter: because on account of this the Lord is the **avenger** concerning all these things, as we have also forewarned you and fully testified. 7 Because **God has not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness**. 8 So consequently, the one who despises does not despise man, but God, who has also given unto us His Holy Spirit. 9 But concerning brotherly love...

## This Especially Includes Physical Romantic Affection:

The warning against "awaking" romance before marriage is echoed three times in Song of Songs: **Song 2:7; 3:5; 8:4**: "Don't stir up or awaken [romantic] love before [marriage]" (also see 8:5) In every one of these cases the warning is preceded by **Physical Romantic Affection**:

Song 2:6-7; 3:4-5; 8:1-4, (and 8:5); which catapults the lovers into having sex: 2:6 → 2:3-5\*; 3:4b → 3:4c\*; 8:1, 3 → 8:2\*; \*Oriental poetic imagery for sexual intimacy demonstrating the warning that PRA should not be done before marriage: 2:4\*; 3:4\* (apply Ecc 3:5: 'a time to NOT embrace'; Song 7:13 ←They didn't "embrace," but "stored up" until marriage → 8:5\*); [\*Oriental/Jewish poetic imagery for a Wedding Ceremony: "Banqueting house" (Son 2:4 LXX: οἶκος τοῦ οἴνου ↔ Joh 2:1-3: οἴνου), "Banner" (present in Jewish weddings), references to "mother" and "birth place" indicating a place for marriage: Gen 24:67]

So since PRA "catapults [humans] into having sex," it is reserved for marriage as a part of sex, and we are charged three times in this context not to open it up before marriage.

The Bible teaches that men are to have a life-posture of not touching women that they are not related or married to: Gen 20:2-6; 1Co 7:1-2: for "a man not to touch a woman" = not marrying (v. 1); "touching" before marriage is associated with "fornication" (sex before marriage) (v. 2a); Marriage is the only moral solution for "touching" such a woman (v. 2b):

**1Co 7:1-2 KJ2000** Now concerning the things of which you wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. 2 Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.

## Answers

**2Tim 2:22 KJB** Flee also youthful lusts, but pursue righteousness, faith, Love, peace, with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

- Sinful directions mean: "Oops! We didn't mean to go that far!"
- Avoid the direction of sin! ("Flee" - 2Tim 2:22)
- If you ever find yourself having gone too far, you can be sure that you were going in the wrong direction to begin with

**Ps. 119:9 KJB** How will a young man make his way clean? [*Good Question!*] by taking heed according to Your word.

