



## I THESSALONIANS

Part Thirty Seven: "Excellence in Moral Purity, Part 3"

### I Thessalonians 4:5

*Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God*

### **Moral Purity is a matter of knowing God.**

The lust of concupiscence is a passion for the forbidden. It is when a person has a driving appetite for what he cannot have, particularly because he cannot have it.

1. The lust of concupiscence is NOT how a believer ought to possess his vessel.

*Not in the lust of concupiscence*

2. Being driven by your passion for the forbidden is characteristic of those who do not know God.

*even as the Gentiles which know not God*

3. The opposite of being driven by your passion for the forbidden is striving to be like Christ and to value what He values.

*Vs. 4 - that every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour*

4. When you don't know God, you simply pursue what makes you feel good, like an animal does; when you know God, you are driven to please Him (*the will of God vs. 3*), to become like Him (*sanctification vs. 4*), and to value what He values (*honour vs 4*).

5. Living to fulfill your lustful appetites is the result of not knowing God, and knowing God transforms you from living to fulfill your lustful appetites.

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## Preparation for Prayer

*It requires a serious mind and a determined heart to pray past the ordinary into the unusual. Most Christians never do.*