

A Higher Pleasure is Within REACH!

The Purity Principle: God's Safeguards for Life's Dangerous Trails

If we could obtain honest interviews with men and women shortly before they trash their purity, we'd hear the words, "This is for *me*. This is for *my* happiness."

But it doesn't turn out that way. Not even close. Have you noticed?

It's not just others they hurt. It's themselves.

Impurity isn't just wrong. It's stupid.

We've all heard lists of reasons for sexual purity. God commands purity and forbids impurity. Purity is right. Impurity is wrong.

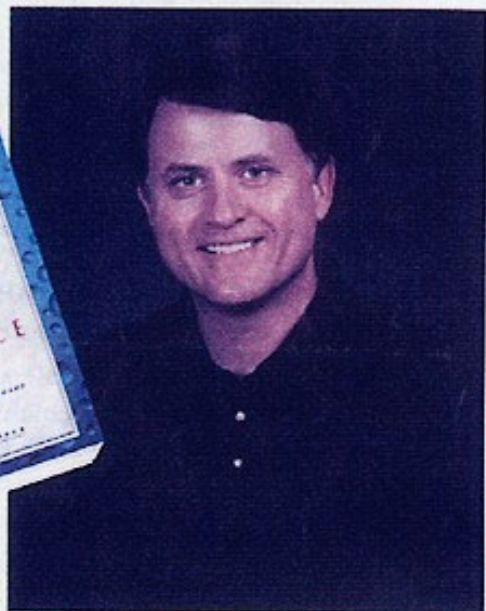
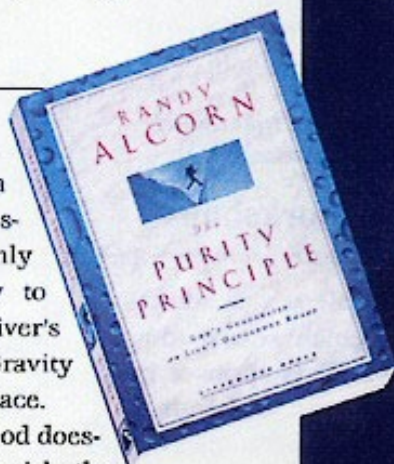
True? Absolutely. But this is equally true: *Purity is always smart; Impurity is always stupid.* Not sometimes. Not usually. Always.

God made the universe so what's true to His character, and the laws derived from His character, is *always* rewarded. What violates His character is *always* punished. He rewards every act of purity; He punishes every act of impurity.

God doesn't always intervene directly. His moral law is like the law of gravity. When a careless driver speeds on an icy mountain pass, loses

control, and plunges off a cliff, God doesn't suddenly invent gravity to punish the driver's carelessness. Gravity is already in place.

Likewise, God doesn't have to punish the fornicator, adulterer or porn addict for every wrong choice. *The punishment is built in to the sin.* Shame, degradation, and warping of the personality follow as a matter of course. Scripture describes those who have surrendered to their lust as "receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error"



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(Romans 1:27).

Proverbs depicts the man seduced into adultery as "an ox going to the slaughter," and a deer being killed by a hunter. The impure man is a loser.

Purity's worth fighting for. And there's good news: we can win the battle. No kidding. There are proven ways to win. And when you taste what it means to win, you find reasons to keep fighting.

Write it down. Bank on it: *Purity always pays off.*

And purity is yours for the choosing. ■

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