



Purity is SECURITY

Two years ago, I was in this Japanese restaurant having dinner with an actor and an actress. Must admit, it was a very interesting feeling. Here I was, walking around with these two celebrities and you could see everyone around was recognizing these two people and most of them were asking to take a photograph. It was a different experience. People were asking to be photographed with them and not me :) Then after the dinner, this actor suggested that we go and watch a movie. So I agreed. We went to a movie named 'HER'. The actor very carefully examined the ratings and said that this would be a very interesting scientific type, experimental movie made about the concept of Artificial Intelligence, from a different perspective. I know for sure that the actor friend is a great guy with high moral standards. So, we walked in.



The movie started and in the first 20 minutes were certain scenes that had full nudity and some showing partial nudity. **It is not my intention to show that I was trying to be very pure, but the truth is that in my heart I was quite uncomfortable. Very uncomfortable.** Remember, I

was sitting alongside an actor and an actress and they had brought me out for this movie. Well, what could I do? But right at this time, my phone began ringing, it was my wife. I was away in a different country and back at home, we had been dealing with a difficult situation. I had to pick up the call. So, when the call repeated, I grabbed the phone and walked out of the movie hall, glad to have found an excuse. It was a bit of a struggle, but I walked out.

My heart was at peace. I had been on the phone with my wife for about 15 minutes when these two friends of mine walked out of the movie hall toward me. My friend said that it was not a fast paced movie and needed a lot of patience to watch it. He was bored and they had decided to walk out. I sincerely and gently shared with my friend that I had to pick up this call.

Let me start today's thought with two important principles.

The first one. There is a moral conscience that God has placed in everyone's heart. Even as early as our diaper days, we begin to express and show that we know what is right and what is wrong. We do not need any special tuition for that. It is part of our God made system, the way God made us.

I am reminded of a friend's child when he was about 2 years old. They were potty training him and on one of these days, the child peed on his clothes. When the father gently questioned him, it surprised me to see that the child turned and pointed to the dog that was at home and said that it was the dog who did it. **Who taught him to lie?** Moral conscience is an inbuilt spiritual DNA that God has placed in our hearts, each of us has it.

How strong or weak our moral conscience or standard grows depends entirely on how we are raised up in our homes, our families, our influences, on how we respond to different traps or temptations and how in time we allow right convictions to be formed. We could have convictions formed rightly, purposefully, set in truth and good values or we can have convictions that are baseless, spineless, motionless and convenient all based on wishful, wilful and wrong perspectives.

The conclusion is that we should be sensitive to the moral standards God has placed on our lives. We have to carefully, purposefully build them up. We should not let them become blunt and toothless or the consequences will hit right back us.

The Second one. Know that at every temptation, there is always an escape route that can be taken. This can be reasoned and reviewed for any situation. But, the truth is that there is always a way of escape, that God provides. Many a time we hesitate to take notice or give importance to that way of escape. Why? Because, we want to do what we want to do. As in my story that I shared before, it could be a phone call or it could be a situation that would arise.

Train your mind to quickly respond to take that route of escape, every time you are in a sticky situation that is not right. As long as you do not take that escape route, deep inside you will know that what you are doing is not right. So, before it is too late, pull out. Bail out. Eject :)

I once got a call in the middle of the night. This young teenage boy was frantic, his voice was shivering on the other end of the phone. I prodded, “Hey, tell me what happened?” He began to cry. I tried to calm him down and encouraged him. “Go ahead. Tell me,” I said. He then blurted out the urgent situation at his end. He confided, “Sir, I have just had sex with a 15 year old servant girl who was working in my house. I don’t know what to do. I am scared. What if she becomes pregnant? Oh, I wish I had not done what I did. Sir, please help me, I am scared.”

Now, do you think what happened to this boy, happened all of a sudden? No, it did not. It happened over a period of time. **There would certainly have been several ways to escape, but he ignored each of them and kept marching on willfully, choosing to dangerously play around.**

Let me throw in another story. This time, it was a call from a 23 year old guy. He too was sobbing at the other end of the phone. He had just had sex with a girl. After all was said and done, as they were getting ready to return home, this girl disclosed that she was HIV positive. **Woah! Woah!** This guy was blown out. He began to question this girl asking her why she had betrayed him. Well, hers was simple logic. *“If you love me deep enough, I was confident that you would also share my AIDS.”*

PURITY IS SECURITY

1. **Any legitimate pure pleasure will never rob the right of the other person. Purity is security.**
2. Any legitimate pure act will never hurt another life. Purity is security.
3. **Any life that walks sincerely, pure in his or her own personal life, will only protect, encourage and be a blessing to others around. Purity is security.**
4. Any individual who preaches or promotes purity needs to be intentionally careful and alert in his or her own life. This purity though is one of those kinds that we can never claim, ‘I have won the trophy’. No, this is a ‘no trophy’ victory. There is no ‘one time victory’ in purity. Victory has to be taken time and again, repeatedly, intentionally. Purity does not stop at one point. Purity is not a one-time act. It is a continuous living and being, rather than doing. Purity is security.

A beautiful orange that is half peeled, in all its bright color is very a good illustration for purity. That is what I saw few weeks ago. To see something pure is very refreshing. May we not just seek and search for purity in material things. Let purity become a part and parcel of our DNA.