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Viewpoints

Observing events in our modern world from the viewpoint of our ascended Savior.

The Oddity Of Rebirth - April 5, 2014

God didn't consult us about how children are made and saved.

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Families in a movie theater to watch a Disney movie got quite a shock last December. During the pre-show trailers, the staff mistakenly played the advertisement for an extremely adult-themed movie. "It seemed like forever when you're trying to, you know, cover a little guy's eyes," said a grandmother who, you know, covered her little grandson's curious eyes.

Recently this adult-themed movie was released nation-wide. I was curious to see the type of reviews it would receive. I looked at a few. But I found nothing as frank and uninhibited as what was written by the Master Reviewer, Jesus. "You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery. But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell'" (Matthew 5:27-30).

Of course Jesus didn't sit through a screening of the movie in order to write his review. He didn't need to. As God he knows what's in it. He knows how filthy it is. He knows how the world takes the gift of human sexuality and trashes it, and then parades the trash around under the guise of entertainment.

But now shift gears away from Hollywood to the Holy Word.

You know, there is a blessed and wholesome curiosity about human sexuality... when it's combined with childbirth and God's kingdom. This is the holy curiosity that C.S. Lewis wrote about. He's the famous Christian apologist who wrote award-winning children's books like "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" and "The Chronicles of Narnia." Lewis wrote:

"In Christ, a new kind of man appeared: and the new kind of life which began in Him is to be put into us. How is this to be done? Now, please remember how we acquired the old, ordinary kind of life. We derived it from others, from our father and mother and all our ancestors, without our consent—and by a very curious process, involving pleasure, pain and danger. A process you would never have guessed. Most of us spend a good many years in childhood trying to guess it... for it is very odd. Now God who arranged that process is the same God who arranges how

the new kind of life—the Christ life-- is to be spread. We must be prepared for it being odd too. He did not consult us when He invented sex: He has not consulted us either when He invented this. There are three things that spread the Christ life to us: baptism, belief and ... Holy Communion. At least these are the three ordinary methods.”

The Apostle Peter taught it this way: “**In his great mercy God has given us new birth into a living hope...**” (1 Peter 1:3). Who would have ever guessed that life in God’s everlasting family would come without our consent, given to us from God himself. He who did not consult us about his created method of making babies also has not consulted us about his created method for making Christians. How odd that the very message about Jesus has the power to give birth to the faith that believes it (Romans 1:16). How curious that baptism gives a child new birth into God’s family (Titus 3:5-6).

When the Devil tantalizes the world to be curious about a pornographic movie, not only should we cover the eyes of the young, but our own eyes as well. But when God advertizes the new birth into a living hope, let us open our eyes and peer intently into the elements of this teaching. For here is a curious oddity that leads to joy, peace and salvation. † † †

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Blessings to you and your loved ones, Pastor Mike Nitz

