



Bethany Lutheran Church & Preschool
5051 McCarty Road
Saginaw, MI 48603
www.bethanysaginaw.com
Phone: 989-793-9579

Viewpoints

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

Website Hack Vs. The Bible - August 23, 2015 *Millions of people who mocked the Bible are paying the price.*

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Prostitution is commonly called the most ancient profession in the world. Because of this, it helps us realize an important truth about the Bible. You see, if I had a nickel for every time someone told me that the Bible is out-dated and irrelevant to our times, I'd be a millionaire.

One of the bigger reasons people assume the Bible fails to speak to our modern world is because of the gap in time and distance between the cultures of the Bible and ours today.

Yes, people in Bible times dressed differently than we do today, ate foods we're not accustomed to, and traveled with different modes of transportation. And you'll find similar cultural gaps across our country today. Imagine the following: for a while you sell art in Laguna Beach, CA; then move to Mobridge, SD to raise heifers on a sprawling ranch; and finally relocate to New York City to work on Wall Street. Your little, sporty Porsche that parallel-parked perfectly well on the steep street overlooking the beach won't serve so well in a muddy field. And your F250 pickup truck that got you around the ranch is hardly workable on Wall Street. Instead, you join the crowd by walking the few blocks from your highrise apartment to your highrise office. Or you hail a cab. Oh, and by the way, you will have also changed your work wardrobes in each location.

So back to "the most ancient profession in the world." In the Old Testament, a prostitute was likened to a wayward wife.¹ In that culture, the wayward wife "stood in the streets" advertizing (*hey, isn't that what hookers do in New York City?*). In that culture, the wayward wife approached a man, telling him, "I've been looking for someone like you and my bed is ready for you! 'Let's drink deep of love till morning!'"² (*Hey, that sounds oddly similar to the now infamous slogan in the news today, "Life's short! Let's have an affair!"*)

When we simply bridge the cultural gap between the days of the Bible and today, what the Bible teaches is not out-of-date and is hugely relevant to our culture right now. In fact there are some 23 million people proving how wrong they are for ignoring the Bible.

In the Old Testament, the wayward wife stood on the corner and advertized herself to her neighbor. Today, husbands or wives who want to cheat on their spouses can go to a website named Ashley Madison, whose self-explanatory motto is, "Life is short. Have an affair." An advertized number of 22,995,000 people have done so. The site was recently hacked. And now anyone in the world who wants to know who these millions are, can pretty much do so,

because the pertinent data has been publicly posted on the dark web. As Julie Prince at [PJ Media](#) writes, “Imagine finding out that the husband (or wife) you love and trust is a member of a website strictly devoted to hooking up and having affairs. It would be a living nightmare.”

A living nightmare, indeed. Consider these few examples...

- A State Attorney from Florida who cried before TV news crews while begging for understanding (and for the ability to keep his job).
- A television personality and political activist who confessed publicly, “I am the biggest hypocrite” (and who is probably now going to lose these positions).
- State workers in CA facing consequences for misuse of state resources after their government emails were discovered in the data dump (multiplied by what factor across our nation’s cities, states and federal entities?)
- A businessman abruptly fleeing the country for fear of his life. Yes, fleeing for his life!

As one news site warned: “Ashley Madison data published—and it’s worse than anyone thought.”

Suddenly what was mocked as out-of-date, irrelevant and disconnected to our modern world is spot on in its wisdom and insight. Let me make just two small changes by inserting some underlined words and see for yourself how the Bible speaks clearly and powerfully to our day and age, even though these words were written about 3,000 years ago.

With persuasive words Ashley Madison led him astray; she seduced him with her smooth talk that “Life’s short! Let’s have an affair.” All at once he followed her like an ox going to the slaughter, like a deer stepping into a noose till an arrow pierces his liver, like a bird darting into a snare, little knowing it will cost him his life. Now then, my sons, listen... pay attention.... Do not let your heart turn to her ways or stray into her paths. Many are the victims she has brought down; her slain are a mighty throng. Her house is a highway to the grave, leading down to the chambers of death. ([Proverbs 7:21-27](#))

The wisdom God speaks through the Bible will not only keep us from stupidly and needlessly losing our reputations, our marriages, or our employment, it will keep us from losing our souls forever—which is the Bible’s primary purpose.

Millions have been lured into ruination by Ashley Madison, and millions more by different wayward people, because they ignored the Bible and sinned. And sinners earn God’s just wrath and condemnation. Yet, to all the hearts being crushed under the weight of their sin, the God of the Bible stands with open and inviting hands—those same identical hands that spilled forgiving blood at the cross and that inked these words of promise in the Bible: **“Where sin increased, grace [God’s undeserved love] increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”** (Romans 5:20). These words are not out-dated sentiments, but relevant truths that bring new life in Christ today. And not just for those caught in the Ashley Madison trap, but for you and me and all who know our sin and the damnation it earns. No matter how gross and damaging our sin is, there is something wonderfully greater: the forgiveness that comes from heaven in Jesus. †

¹ See Proverbs 7:4-21 where the terms adulteress, wayward wife and prostitute are contextually linked together.

² Quoted From Proverbs 7:10-21

[How Many Families Were Broken This Week After the Ashley Madison Hack?](#) @ PJ Media
[The Ashley Madison Data Breach Is Already Ruining Lives](#) @ Wired.Co.UK
[California state government, L.A. County emails linked to Ashley Madison sites](#) @ LA Times

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Blessings to you and your loved ones, Pastor Mike Nitz

