

# Sexology

## By David White

David White:

Sexology. Where do we start? Can we get down to business right away?

[Audience laughs]

David White:

Are you serious? I mean, Matt just told you, I like to be real. I'm going to cut to the chase, sex is great.

[Audience laughs and cheers]

David White:

Hello, by the way, to the people in the overflow. Can you say it with me? Sex is, great.

Audience:

Great!

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David White:

A little more Tony the Tiger, sex is grrreat.

Audience:

Grrreat!

[Audience laughs]

David White:

[Backs away from microphone] Can you hear me with this? No, I got to stay here. [Goes back to microphone] OK. Well, we got that out of the way, that's important. Because a lot of times at our stage in life, right, we're told you can't do it. Can't touch. Can't do. Can't think about it. And it's tough. You just need to know that it's going to get better. And God created sex as good and holy. It's not only a responsibility and a duty, but it's an incredible privilege, not only for procreation, but loving recreation. You saw my beautiful bride. God has blessed me beyond I deserve. And it's wonderful to connect with someone who loves you as a real person. All of you. All of you naked and unashamed. And sex is more than just a literal act, right. It's-it's a metaphor of just being real, and close, and intimate, and someone knowing you, the good and the bad, and accepting it, it's just really wonderful.

Some of you perhaps have read Song of Solomon, which is so terrific, and uh, I wanted to highlight some of those verses, these are the kinds of verses you want to read for sure before you get married. But we'll highlight--I want you to hear how tasteful God is when He talks about sex. Not dirty, not grungy, not even something you need to blush about, but something beautiful. He says--He uses tasteful words like vineyards, and gardens, and flowers, and choice fruits. He talks about budding vines, and blooming pomegranates, and juicy nectars, when He talks about sexual love. I mean, beautiful language. The song of songs talks about scented perfumes, and fragrances, and fine spices, and that our relationship, our love relationships, take place in a secret, private place where there's love that's bonded, and love that's protected, and where there's trust.

It describes the man as handsome, and charming, and ruddy, and outstanding, like a young stag on a rugged hill. He says his body is masculine and strong, like polished ivory. His arms are rods of gold. His legs are pillars of marble. His appearance is like choice cedars. Just beautiful descriptions of how God's created us. She's described as beautiful, darling, lovely, majestic, pleasing. She's compared to a beautiful rose, a garden fountain, the morning dawn, the moon, the sun, the stars. She has red lips, a sweet voice, a lovely face. She has graceful legs, it says, a small waist, soft breasts, beautiful eyes, her eyes and her hair are like a royal tapestry. She's a sight to behold. I mean, really beautiful language. Song of songs talks about romance that involves kisses, and hugs, and embraces, and it's more delightful than wine. Like better than a really good communion. And the--

[David White and audience laugh]

David White:

And the banner over this relationship is in fact love, and after looking and searching for love, the scriptures say her heart is pounding for him. She's faint with love and longs to be pursued and taken away. And his heart has been stolen, with one glance. And he cannot sleep at night. And the relationship is filled with passion and desire. And their love is pleasing, and delightful, and hot. Really hot. In fact, it says it burns like blazing fire, like a mighty flame, and many waters cannot quench love. I mean, it's just really a beautiful portrait. But we have work to do before we get there. But this topic is so hot, and so hard to put in words, I thought if we could be a little playful, are you up for a little playful?

[Audience laughs]

David White:

Sex is grrreat!

Audience:

Grrreat!

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David White:

There you go. Okay. If we could be a little playful, I have a couple of guys, a couple of folk guys from New Zealand who I think playfully talk about the practical natures of getting down to business. Let's watch.

[Audio skips to after video]

David White:

Okay, so are we on the same page now?

[David White and audience laugh]

David White:

I want you to know that sex is great, and it's great with someone you love, and it's great with someone who loves you. And as you can see from this very playful rendition, there is a time in life where you have to come off the idealism that we all buy into, that fantasy that it all happens on a romantic balcony, and the scent is just right. And, you know, everything's perfect, and there's candlelight, and music in the background. As you can tell, sometimes it has to be scheduled, apparently, on a Wednesday.

[Audience laughs]

David White:

And apparently sometimes it can't compete with like a TV show. And sometimes you gotta get real practical, like grooming tips, like brush your teeth if you want it to happen. And by the way, a shower and a little cologne isn't a bad idea either. And sometimes it's a little quicker than you expect. Like two minutes, but two minutes in heaven is better than one minute in heaven, so.

[Audience laughs]

David White:

Sexology, we're having a little bit of fun. But we need to pull it back, because most of us here aren't married. Most of us here aren't able to be playfully--uh, to work that out. So let's go back to the beginning, because if that's where we're moving towards, an intimate relationship with someone we can love, where does God start? Like, where does this all begin? I'm pulling out my theology books and I'm like, yeah, it talks about what is man that you're mindful of him. And I'm looking at come-some of my notes, he's not an animal, he's not a machine, he's not primarily an economic being, or just a helpless victim. Man is not a vulnerable pawn in the universe. He's certainly a sexual being, but he's more than that. We're not just, you know, living off of hormones and libido, testosterone, and estrogen. We are a much loved, image bearer of a benevolent God.

And we are the glory and crown of His creation. The crescendo, if you can imagine, and climax of all that He's made. We are now noble rulers, ambassadors for God, royalty really, with dignity, and value, and greatness, including our sexuality, for we're fearfully and wonderfully made. We are embodied spirits, souls with a body and a spirit. And we're relational beings. And we have at least five primary relationships that come out right off the bat in Genesis. We have a creational relationship with God. This is a hot topic, isn't it? I'm just sweatin' up here. I love it. We have a creational relationship with God, we're created and have a relationship with God Himself. We have a communal relationship with one another, that we're called to live in community with each other, a community of compassion, a family of faith, if you will. We have a complementary relationship with the opposite sex because God made us male and female. And you're either one or the other, grounded in our anatomy and our-the very fiber of our being. I don't believe in the modern stuff. I know Young and-and Freud and others talk about guys getting in touch with their inner feminine. I don't have any inner feminine.

[Audience laughs]

David White:

That doesn't mean I don't have a-a soft side. There is the tough and tender, you know, 10 is maybe Rambo, one is a nice guy, whatever. Yeah. There's range to our masculinity, and there's range to our femininity. But I don't think I have masculinity and femininity in me, because if I had it in me, it would be an attempt, wouldn't it be? To not need anyone else. To get it all inside

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me? The reality is we need God. Because we're not Him. We need others because it's not good for us to be alone, and we need the other sex because it ain't inside us. And we can't rival God. So we have a creational relationship with God, a communal relationship with each other, a complementary relationship with the opposite sex, and we have a contrasting relationship with the animals. God had Adam name the animals so he could see you're not one of these. My wife does call me tiger every now and then, but--

[Audience laughs and whistles]

David White:

OK, ba-dum-bum. Brutal. You guys are tough. Rawr.

[Audience laughs]

David White:

No, that doesn't do it? But we're not animals, and we have a conflictual relationship with Satan. That's very important. By the time man and woman gets on the scene, Satan is already present. He's already rebelled. A third of the angels have already had a hostile takeover. There's chaos in the universe. And so when we come on the scene, you have to know that your personal life and your sexual life are under attack. News to anyone? Because you have a conflictual relationship with an adversary who wants to take you down. Even though sex is grrreat, it can easily be



ruined. And even though it's hot, and it is, it could scorch you and torture you, if you're not careful. And so we have these primary relationships, and I thought what I would do is just share with you the basic text. Matt and I were talking, I'm like, we need a whole semester to talk about this topic. And when I taught authentic manhood here for ten years, it was great. We'd have 15 weeks to unpack the whole spectrum of things that you guys are dealing with, particularly at your season of life. Today, we've got about 15 minutes.

Okay? So what I thought, well, what do you do with fifteen minutes. Let's go to God's word. I'm in Genesis chapter 1. You can look it up if you'd like, or just follow along with me. But He starts off in chapter one talking about sex and our sexuality. It says, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. And now the earth was formless and empty or void. And darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters." So we've got formless, empty, void, darkness. We've got a little bit of chaos, some badness going on. I don't think it was just, uh, unfashioned earth. But in the midst of this, God says in verse three, "Let there be light. And there was light. God said the light was good." It goes on in verse 9 and 10 to talk about land and seas, good. 11 through 13 plants and trees, good. Sun, moon, and stars verses 14 through 19, those are good. Birds and fish, good. Livestock, ground animals, wild animals, verses 24 and 25, all good. Good, good, good, good, good, good. Everything God created was good.

Verse 26, then God said, "Let us make man in Our own image, in Our own likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea, and the birds in the air, and over the livestock, and the earth, et cetera. And so God created man in His own image. In the image of God, He created them"

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distinct, "male and female, He created them." Two sexes, not unisex, not androgynous, not transgendered. Two equal persons, equal in their status before God, equal in their personhood, equal in their importance to the family, equal as co-regents, in their significance in the work of God, but different and distinct. Maybe even not just anatomical and biological, but perhaps relating all the way to the very roles of man and woman rooted in creation, not convention. And as you go through the Old Testament, which we don't have time today, but even Deuteronomy says, you know, men dress like men, women dress like women. Let's not confuse the matter. God likes the distinctions. And then those conventions can change over time. I like men that are men, women that are women. And uh, that's how it works. So He moves on in verse 28 of Genesis 1 and says, now, "God blessed them and said to them," this is really powerful. I think it's powerful. We're in Chapter 1, the very first chapter of the Bible, "Be fruitful."

[Pauses]

David White:

That means have sex. That's like right out the chute. Have sex. Make whoopy.

[Audience laughs]

David White:

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Make love. I can say that, right? You're tracking. How much? A lot. Increase a number, have a lot of sex. Like a lot, a lot? Yeah. Fill the earth.

[Audience laughs]

David White:

I mean, this is not Allah, this is not Confucius, or Buddha. This is our God. You be fruitful, and you keep doing it so that you really reproduce and multiply. Have tons of kids. How many? Fill the whole earth. Let's just do it. Let's let's really make it a happy place.

[Audience laughs]

David White:

And subdue it. And God saw that all that He had made was very good. And thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. So there we get through chapter 1 of Genesis, and there's this sense right out of the chute. Wow. God makes a lot of stuff. But He makes man and woman, male and female, and whatever this fruitful multiply increase in number thing is, whatever this sexual dynamic is, it's powerful. It's about connecting, and reproducing, and multiplying, and really going at it. Well, let's clarify. So we get to chapter two and you know, you're Hebrew parallelism that now we get to start the story over just in case we heard it wrong. Like could this be? Like He's talking about sex in chapter 1 of the Bible? Well, let's try chapter

two, starting in verse four. He says "This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created and the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being." This being was, as you know, marvelous, majestic, masculine. I mean, it's terrific.

"And the Lord God took the man and He put him in the Garden of Eden," which means he wasn't in the Garden of Eden originally, made from dirt. Guys tend to like to get dirtier, I think, than women. I don't know if there's any parallels here whatsoever, but He now puts him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. This is a heyday for guys. We love projects. We love to work. He's got a job. He's got a career. He's got a lot of food around him. It's terrific. I mean, this is a really good setting. And the Lord God commanded the man "You're free to eat from any tree in the garden," the refridge is open. I'm like, this is terrific. "But you can't eat from one tree, the knowledge of good and evil." Because when you eat the Doritos and you drink the beer, it'll you'll surely die.

[Audience laughs]

David White:

So. So there's a limitation, but nonetheless, it's good. And verse 18 says "The Lord, God said, "see?" It's not good." Whoa, wait a minute. How do we get a not good with a perfect God who's on a roll? He's already told us everything He created was good, good, good, good, good, good. Very good. He creates Adam, not a plant, not a flower. Not an animal. And He says to Adam, it's

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not good. Why is it not good? What's wrong? What's wrong with my masculinity? Well, there is no masculinity until we get the other part. It's not good for man to be, what? Alone. God's not done. I will make a helper, a partner suitable for you, a counterpart, a correspondent, a compliment, a companion, not a duplicate, not a clone, not the same thing, not you with redesigned plumbing, a different glorious being. I have talked to some gals over the years who were like, I don't like the term helpmates or helper, just sounds so condescending and inferior, and I'm like, sweetheart, come here.

[Audience laughs]

David White:

This is not about you, it's about him. He needs help. Okay?

[Audience laughs]

David White:

Are you with me? It wasn't good for Adam to be alone. He needed help. So gals work with us, okay? And my wife has helped me incredibly, a lot of guys are okay with a lot of space and aloneness, and we like to go into caves. But God created someone to help Adam. Now, Adam wasn't totally aware of his sexual need for a compliment. Remember, he had all the food he could eat. He had a great job. No one to nag him or bug him. He was having a great time. And

uh, so God has to make Adam aware of his relational need, so he gives him an exercise, he actually tells Adam, here's what we're gonna do. Here's your homework for the day. I'm going to bring all the animals to you and then I'm going to let you name them. And I believe he brought them to him in pairs. Hint, hint. Verse 19, "Now the Lord God formed out of the ground all the beast, the field, all the birds of the air, and He brought them to the man, Adam, to see what he would name them. And whatever the man called each living creature that was its name." So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and the beasts of the field.

So here Adam had an opportunity to spend a little time with the entire animal kingdom. And he's going, okay we're gonna go, let's go, goose and gander. I'm feeling lion and lioness over here. Let's go tiger, tigress, and oy vey. You know, at the end of the day, he's gone from antelope to zebra, and he realizes, oh. There wasn't like a pair for me. There wasn't a partner for me. God showed him, like your sexual need is so important. I want you to feel it. So before God even brought Eve onto the scene, he helped Adam realize the whole created order has this kind of dynamic, and you don't have it. "So the Lord caused the man then to fall into a deep sleep," verse 21, "and while he was sleeping, He took one of the man's ribs," his side, "and closed up the place with the flesh and the Lord God made or fashioned a woman from the rib that He had taken out of the man, and He brought her to the man." Now, I don't really know all of Adam's affect and experience, but after naming, you know, the platypus, and like getting through the whole animal kingdom, when he saw Eve, I'm thinking it was something like, "Whoa, man."

[Audience laughs]

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David White:

No? That's not why they named her a woman. Okay. Well, what he did say is this is now bone of my bones. There's a lot of hostility here, little--

[Audience laughs]

David White:

I'm not feeling the love right now. "Bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh, she shall be called woman, for she was taken out of this- the man. For this cause, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife and they will become--" here we go again! "One flesh." They're gonna have sex. And the wife-uh--the man and his wife were both naked and they felt no shame. So we get in chapter two, kind of a recap of chapter one, and we see this again, that our sexual being is so much a part of who we are, and so important to God. That in Chapter 1 and 2, He mentions it, and it becomes a part of His whole, you know, really strategy to reach the world and to fill it. Now because we're not able to like, talk about business time too much, because you're not there. You don't have your business socks yet. You're still in your books and getting good grades. There are things in Genesis 1 and 2 that you can start working on, notice for this reason, or cause or purpose or destiny, if you're going to find your love complement, you're going to have to leave your father and mother. You're going to have to injure them.

This is the only biblically sanctioned place I'm aware of that you actually get to injure your parents in a healthy way, and that is to separate from them, and many of you are doing that. You're moving out of the house, developing a little of your own identity, standing on your own feet, getting your own job, making your own, you know, pay, and starting to develop a loving but separate leaving relationship with them. It says you're going to have to be united to your wife. You're gonna have to be able to cleave to another person, if you don't know how to bond or attach, that doesn't mean be in the same room as someone, but really internalize another person so that you have a meaningful connection. Then you can start working on that now because you're gonna want that later for your lifetime partner. It says you're going to have to become one flesh. You're gonna have to have a reunion, in a sense with another person. A profound fusion of two lives.

And you can start to let go of some of your controlling ways right now. You're not really in control anyways. But the illusion that you are, and enjoy a little bit of abandon, take a few risks with people, allow yourself to attach in a meaningful way. I think that's helpful. And then it goes on to say "And the man and the wife were both naked and felt no shame." You know what Matt talked about, you can start working on now. You don't have to start undressing your clothes to start to have that vulnerability that's necessary for meaningful relationships. Taking a risk to be real with someone, authentic, and genuine is like a really terrific start. And it's a very humbling experience for me, knowing all my insecurities and all my inadequacies, and just a slew of things that make me a nut, that my wife, in spite of me, continues to bring herself to me. And in an intimate way. Now we know as we go on to Genesis chapter 3, the story gets a little more



intense. I just don't want to talk about it today.

Because what happened is Adam and Eve started to go their own independent way. They didn't want to follow God's plan. And when they did that, of course, sin entered the world and a sinner in the world--you know, Adam started to see Eve's faults, and problems, and sinfulness, and Eve started to see Adam's. And there was a real problem. Now, Eros, and passion, and hot sizzling romance wasn't sufficient. Now, God says for you guys to join together, we need a vow. We don't quite believe you're gonna pull it off. And we'd like witnesses there, by the way, to hold you accountable. Because now in a fallen world, now in real business time, where things really have to be scheduled, and you might be tired, and you're wearing an old t-shirt, and it's tough, not-you're not on the-in the fantasy world. You got to work hard. And you can begin that work now. Take a sexuality class, get into counselling on campus, start connecting in small groups. Take everything you can about spiritual formation. Learn who you are and who you're not.

All these developmental tasks while you're here at Biola are great preparation for you to-to-to kind of move against the fall and move to attachment. Well, in wrapping up, all I've really wanted to accomplish today is to say that sex is great. It's good. It's holy. It's pure. It's what God intended in a monogamous, faithful relationship. But before it gets too too hot, and before you get too too burned, and before you actually get into real business time, take the time here at Biola, what a great environment to mature, and to grow, to discover your own maleness, your own femaleness, to kind of thank God for who you are, get a lot of grace around you. The truth is sobering, isn't it? Get a lot of people are gracious, and kind, and loving. And then let's get to work. And tomorrow I have the great privilege of speaking again. We're going to talk about

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dateology, really hitchology, before you hitch up with someone, before you practice, right? And start discovering what are some things you can do in your meaningful relationships right now before you make those final commitments. So, I've really enjoyed being with you, I want to give a little hello to the men's soccer team over here. You know, they're playing tonight at 7 o'clock, right? Right out here. And I know we've got this terrific conference going on, but you can come to the conference and then I hear they're sexy guys, too. But I don't know.

[Audience laughs]

David White:

You know, I can't talk about that here. Anyways, let me pray for us and thank you for being with me. Heavenly Father, we thank You for this afternoon, and we are awestruck when we get into Your Word that you have made us so incredibly complex, and wonderful, and fearfully made. And our sexuality is certainly part of that, and we thank You for that. We thank You that You have made us male and female, that none of us can rival You, because none of us have all the pieces. We need others. We thank You that it's not good for us to be alone, but You've put us in a community here of others who are caring and loving, community of compassion, where we can grow and develop and mature together. And again, I thank you for this opportunity for us to grow as Your servants in Christ and all God's people said--