

Spirit

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED AT WORLD OVERCOMERS?

**A VIEW FROM THE PEW!
SEX IN THE KINGDOM**

A VIEW FROM THE PEW: THE TRUTH ABOUT APOSTLE WILLIAMS' MESSAGE ON SEX



THE MARRIAGE BED IS UNDEFILED... (Hebrews 13:4)

The Church's Hunger for Gossip

What has the Body of Christ in Memphis come to? All the conversation on the radio talk shows and the Internet really reveals so much about the spiritual condition of our religious community. The world is curious and hungry for tabloid sensationalism, gossip, garbage and slander. The church too has been consumed with this same appetite for lurid, scandalous and offensive information. We as Christians are allowing the world to destroy our churches.

How to Get the Hell Out of Your Home

At World Overcomers, Apostle Williams has taught a series of messages on marriage and the family called, "How to Get the Hell Out of Your Home." The series was inspired by the recent divorces of two well-known national evangelists and the many members who were discouraged by it. The comments and writings about his "Sex in the Kingdom" sermon and skit have been overly exaggerated. Pastor and Mrs. Williams' integrity would never allow them to stoop to the level of the things that have been said.

Parental Discretion Was Advised

Apostle Williams warned parents about the nature of the message weeks before he preached it. On the day he ministered the sermon, his pulpit elders informed the congregation that all parents who did not want their children or teens to hear the message should take them to the children's church or the youth ministry.

A Summary of the Skit

Rather than try to rebut all the false allegations that have been made, I will give a summation of Apostle Williams' message and its intent. Apostle Williams' character entered the service on Sunday, December 2, 2007 wearing a navy blue bath robe with pajamas underneath. He performed a brief skit that demonstrated what many couples experience relative to their romantic lives. It is true that a bed was on the stage with a chair, lamp and lamp stand. These props are no different than the ones used for a drama production. The bed was only used as a visual aid as he taught the message. It was interesting and delightful to see a pastor and wife come out of character and demonstrate a human side of life. The pastor used drama to help church members see themselves.

In the skit, Apostle Williams used the beginning words of a popular song called “Turn Off the Lights.” He cut off the lamp lights and lit a candle in an effort to show the congregation a husband anticipating a romantic evening with his wife. He sprayed on cologne and sat on the bed to show men how to respect their wives with cleanliness.

The combination of the bed, the pajama clothing and Christian romantic jazz music playing in the background set a wonderful atmosphere that prepared the church for what would come next.

Mrs. Williams’ Initial Entrance



As a comedic ploy, Mrs. Williams’ character entered the stage with a big bath robe, flannel gown, rollers, head scarf, bobby sox, and puppy dog house shoes. Her appearance sent the message that wives sometimes do not consider or meet the romantic expectations of their husbands. Mrs. Williams sat on the other side of the bed and dialogued with her husband’s character for a few minutes about her lackluster appearance. They never touched or kissed each other at any time, as has been stated. She laid hands on him, anointed him with oil, and even read a scripture from the Bible while sitting on the bed. Mrs. Williams’ character demonstrated how many Christian wives try to overspiritualize sex and romance. Pastor’s character in the skit was noticeably annoyed. Mrs. Williams sensed the frustration of her husband’s character and exited the stage going up the choir stairs.

Marriage Intimacy Issues

After the first part of the skit, Apostle Williams creatively ministered a PowerPoint message from the bed. He prefaced his message with the fact that he has counseled many married couples in his church over the years. He discovered that sex was a major issue that was destroying many marriages.

Apostle Williams shared how many marriages are not lasting because of a lack of sexual fulfillment. Men are frustrated and lack the excitement and fulfillment they yearn for. Consequently, they are drawn to the nudity bars in droves to arouse and stimulate their lustful passions. They are paying out hundreds of dollars in child support every month to women they neither love nor live with because their sex lives were out of control. Women, on the other hand, lack the affection, attention, care and cuddling they desire. They tend to have distorted images of their sexuality and are not able to enjoy sex with their husbands or fulfill their husbands’ needs. Many women are on welfare because of promiscuity; as a result, they had several children out of wedlock. Satan is strategically using sex to tear up people’s lives and homes, and he is saying to the church, “Do not come on my turf.”

Williams concluded that if he can get wives to give husbands what they want, and if he could get husbands to give the wives what they want, then both would be fulfilled.

God's Intent for Sex

Apostle Williams shared God's six purposes for sex and explained how God created sex to be enjoyed by husbands and wives. Not one time did he ever encourage anyone to do anything ungodly. He started with Hebrews 13:4, which states that the marriage bed is undefiled, meaning that the sex act between a married couple (one man and one woman) is pure in God's eyes. He took us to Proverbs 7 and showed how the other woman (strange woman) works to lure a man away from his wife. He also provided background on the Songs of Solomon. He explained that it was an erotic book designed by God to celebrate marital sex between a husband and wife. The Songs of Solomon demonstrate a married couple enjoying their physical bodies and the lovemaking experience.

Apostle stated that if many divorced Christian women had read about Abishag's aggression, creativity, initiative, response, freedom, expression and enjoyment of the sexual experience with her husband Solomon, it possibly would have helped them keep their husbands. Unfortunately, in the back of many women's minds, they believe that SEX IS DIRTY.

Many women have been taught that sex is evil and wrong, and/or their initial experience with sex made them feel dirty. Although women will do things out of duty to their husbands, most are never fulfilled because they are doubtful. They do not realize that their lack of response affects the sexual fulfillment of their husbands.

Religious Error Regarding Sex

Apostle Williams also shared religion's role in inhibiting couples' freedom. Centuries of erroneous doctrinal teaching about sex from early church fathers such as St. Augustine taught that sex was evil and was the real sin in the Garden of Eden. Augustine's teachings have been passed down for generations and are still with us today. Many churches have taught these errors for centuries. As a result, Christians still have a problem with sex and see it as something dirty. With this kind of mindset, wives today cannot be free to enjoy their spouses. I applaud his boldness for saying this.

The Church's Failure to Talk About Sex

The church, as Williams said, has not effectively taught on the subject of sex. We have allowed the world to teach us in the backseat of a car. The world is very vocal about preaching its message of sex, but the church is silent. We only hear a one-sided message, therefore we cater to that side. For this reason, the Bible says that God's people (or their marriages) are destroyed because of a lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6). How shall we hear without a preacher (Romans 10:14)? If our preachers fail to preach the relevant issues of the time from God's perspective, how shall we hear what God has to say? Our homes are messed up, and someone has to save us with a liberating word from God.

Sex is so personal until most people are not willing to openly talk about it. Instead, they continue in their misery and never say a word. However, Apostle Williams, like Issachar, has an understanding of the times (1 Chronicles 12:32). Since people would not come forward and ask personal questions, Apostle decided to take the message to them.

Our Children Are Exposed to Sex in the World

The consciousness of America is consumed with the subject of sex. The moral standards that once stood guard against licentious behavior have fallen. Our kids are exposed to sex every day. We do not want our children to hear about sex in the church, but we allow them to hear it on MTV, BET, and other television shows. We buy them rap CDs and tickets to see sexually-charged movies. As a result, fifth graders know more about sex today than their grandparents did when they were in high school. The children have grown up without being taught a godly standard of sexuality. Therefore they learn it from Satan and/or the world. As a result, many kids today are confused about their sexual identity.

Many of our children are becoming gay, and our parents do not even realize it. The reason we do not want sex to be taught in the church is because we fear that the truth will expose our sin to our children.

The Bible Talks About Sex

If we cannot talk about sex in church, where can we talk about it? If the scriptures are not silent on an issue, we should not be quiet. The Bible deals with sex throughout its pages. If God talked about it, so should we (1 Corinthians 7:2-5; Proverbs 5:18-19, Songs of Solomon). Herein lies the problem - most Christians are not aware of how sexually detailed the Bible really is. A soap opera unfolds right within the pages of Scripture. Yet, this soap opera will always lead you to the truth.

Paul Preached to the Corinthian Church About Sex

The Apostle Paul preached and/or wrote to the church at Corinth on the subject of sex in 1 Corinthians 7. If we say that it is wrong to teach about sex in the church before an entire congregation, then someone did not tell Paul. It is evident in verse 34 that Paul talked to the married couples and singles about sex at the same time. Paul preached to the church of Rome on the subject of homosexuality in Romans 1:26-32. He did not bite his tongue on the subject of sex and other prevalent issues. In speaking out about these topics, Paul was being true to his calling. The apostle's mantle is called upon to defend the faith, address sin and bring correction.

Many cannot handle an apostle's bold, confrontational, in-your-face style of preaching. Yet, when people leave an apostolic service, they can never say that they did not hear the truth.

Determining What's Proper in the Marital Bed

In his quest to be humorous and relevant to the needs of this generation, Apostle Williams answered questions he knew most people had about sex. Out of love and compassion for his members, he chose to address critical issues that concerned his members from a biblical perspective. He noted that people were involving themselves in activities considered to be unclean in the world. In fact, Williams also mentioned that too much of what Christians want to do is based on what they see in the world. Therefore, he addressed such issues as married couples using x-rated videos to enhance their sex lives and the use of gadgets and vibrators. He discussed the following questions: Does the Bible condemn oral and anal sex? Does God permit group sex, threesomes or orgies? Although these topics may be somewhat graphic to some, they are issues that need to be addressed from a godly perspective to help Christians make appropriate, godly decisions.

Some may have taken his humor the wrong way. However, he never disrespected the sanctity of his own marriage by sharing what went on in his own bedroom. He never cursed or used any profane language. He only informed couples about what was permissible for them from a biblical perspective. He only shared what men in general like and expect, based on his years of counseling experience.

Not only did he advise married couples, but he also prepared singles for their future marriages. He taught singles about the kinds of sex traps they can possibly get in that can destroy their destiny.

He Addressed Questions About Sex

Apostle Williams has been willing to go where many have not been willing to go. Questions about sexuality that have puzzled many Christians for years have been answered. He has backed up every answer with the Word of God. These truths have been in the Bible all along, yet we did not know about them.

I know of several couples (who are either attending the church or are members) who have shared their testimonies to me. Some couples, who were on the brink of divorce, took Apostle Williams' message, applied it to their lives, and have begun to experience a greater degree of intimacy than they ever had before. One couple told me that they had begun to discuss sex in a way that they could have never shared with each other prior to the sermon series.

By Their Fruit You Shall Know Them

The Bible gives us a principle for measuring whether one's efforts are of God.

Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them (Matthew 7:20).

To determine if an act or message is inspired by God, we only need to check the fruits (or the results). Apostle Williams' teaching is bringing marriages and families back together again. This is profitable or godly fruit. Sex is godly in marriage (1 Corinthians 7:2-5).

Mrs. Williams' Final Entrance

As Apostle Williams closed his sermon that Sunday, Mrs. Williams' character closed the skit by walking down the choir steps wearing a beautiful, flowing red satin gown and robe. She was covered from neck to foot. No part of her clothing or body was revealing, clinging, or tight, yet she looked absolutely stunning.

There was no kiss, embrace, or inappropriate action between her and Pastor Williams's characters on stage. As a matter of fact, if you look in the background, you will see many members' smiling faces as they are enjoying the production. Mrs. Williams carried herself with the utmost grace, beauty and godliness. She demonstrated how God-fearing married women should make an effort to please and honor their husbands (1 Corinthians 7:34).

Persecuted for Righteousness' Sake

We must remember that John the Baptist had his head cut off and was killed because he brought conviction to the king, the queen and her daughter (Mark 6:21-28).

Although there has been no physical death, we are committing character assassination against our leaders when they speak the truth. Many today are under conviction because of their own ungodly sex lives, and they do not want to hear it mentioned in church. Yet, we will allow the world, through TV, movies, and music, to speak the wrong things about sex, and we say nothing. Jeremiah 3:15 says we can easily recognize those pastors who have God's heart because they feed the people with knowledge and understanding, regardless of what people think.

Channel 5's Story

In a recent television show, Apostle Williams spoke about the story that WMC-TV Channel 5 aired about his message on December 19. During the story, they chose to bleep certain words that gave the appearance that he was using profanity. The statement in question involved a question from a member who wanted to know if anal sex was permissible. In response, Apostle stated that the anus was not built for sex and was not made to handle the constant thrusting of the male organ as the vagina was made to handle.

Channel 5 chose to bleep the words *anus* and *vagina* because of their sexual connotation. These two words are not considered to be restricted words by the FCC. However, the bleeps made it appear that Apostle Williams used the "a" three-letter word. Over 2300 members who heard the message that Sunday will testify that he did not use profanity.

You Must See the DVD

I encourage all who read this to call the church and purchase the DVD or tape. There, you will see for yourself the truth of Apostle Williams' sermon. What Satan meant for evil, God is using it for the kingdom's good. The message is circulating as hundreds are buying the DVDs to hear the teaching for themselves. To God be the glory! Here comes the harvest.

The Antichrist Spirit

I encourage the Body of Christ to guard your hearts from salacious gossip intended to sow discord, strife, confusion and division in the Body of Christ. An antichrist spirit roams the earth, according to 1 John 4:3, and its intent is to destroy God's churches in the earth. We as children of God cannot allow any church of God to be destroyed. In the coming days, you will begin to see more attacks against the church and its leaders. Be prepared.

Apostle, we say, "Thank you for saving marriages. Thank you for preparing singles for marriage. Thank you for paying the ultimate price and speaking the truth in love." Everyone can't appreciate it, but I can. I remind the Body of Christ that the Bible talks about the end-time persecution of the church.

Before our very eyes, we are seeing the purposeful destruction of many of our churches and men of God. When they fall, it hurts us all. Let these events serve as notice that it is time for the church to pray and do spiritual warfare to protect our churches and its leaders.

A VIEW FROM THE PEW **From World Overcomers Outreach Ministries Church**