

NBTS  
MATS  
09-99

SEXUAL CRISIS IN MARRIAGE AND EFFECT ON CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: A  
CASE STUDY OF J. C. POOL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

A THESIS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY  
FACULTY OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES  
THE NIGERIAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
OGBOMOSO, NIGERIA

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT  
FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF  
ARTS IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

2013-0616

BY  
OYELADE, TOTOOLA ZACHEAUS  
MATS 09/041

JUNE, 2012.

J. C. POOL LIBRARY  
BAPTIST SEMINARY  
OGBOMOSO NIGERIA

## ABSTRACT

This research was purposely conducted and examined Sexual Crisis in Marriage and Effect on Church Membership: A Case Study of J. C. Pool Baptist Association. It is a reality that crisis in the home is inevitable, there is no marriage that will not pass through the stages of challenges in life. Marriage was established by God before all other human institution. There is no over emphasized that crisis is eroding both Christian and non-Christian marriage.

In the literature review, the researcher in his effort examined the wholistic concept of marriage. Under which the Yoruba cultural concept of sexuality in marriage was considered. The Biblical concept of marriage and sexuality was also discussed. Causes of sexual crisis in marriage was also examined.

In other to achieve the purpose of this essay and produce an acceptable academic work, the researcher interviewed some persons both clergymen and the laity alike, some of who have one time served in the J. C. Pool Baptist Association and some of which are still actively involved in the Association. Especially all of them are married men and women.

It has been noticed that so many marriages are facing this trauma. In the light of this, recommendations are made to the families, on how to handling crisis in their homes. The essay is expected to put into action, thereby, the desire of the writer would be met and each families will experience lasting marriage stability despite all the challenges that may crop up in their marriage.

Chapter three, deals with approaches in solving these problems, that is, sexual crises in marriage. Before hand, the brief history and development of J. C. Pool Baptist Association from the inception in the year 1969 to date year 2012 was explained. Here, the roles of churches in solving sexual crisis in marriage was discussed. The role of couples and the effect of married couples' with sexual crisis on church was also looked into. Since the church is made up of individuals that makes up families and what affect the family equally affects the church, hence the church could also be affected in the area like, low income (finances), attendance (numerical decrease) and others.

Chapter four was used to discuss my findings and the discussions were made on them. About 32 peoples were interviewed within the J. C. Pool Baptist Association, which includes pastors and laymen. There views were discussed based on their experiences on sexual relations. Then some implications for pastoral counseling were also considered. Because the researcher sees the need for pastoral counseling as a means to reduce the agony of sexual crisis.

In chapter five, conclusion, summary and recommendations were made. All of these will help the readers to understand the main content of the work better!

## **5.2 Conclusion**

When God created people, he created them as male and female for the purpose of sexual reproduction (Gen. 1:27-28). It is important for Christians to understand that sex was God's idea for mankind's good and enjoyment. Within marriage, it is not a sin. According to the Bible sex is both good (Gen. 1:31) and holy (Heb. 13:4). It was given to man before his fall into sin in the garden of Eden (Gen. 1:27-28; 2:21-25). The Bible says, 'and rejoice in the wife of your youth. As a loving hind and a graceful doe, let her

## 5.2 Conclusion

When God created people, he created them as male and female for the purpose of sexual reproduction (Gen. 1:27-28). It is important for Christians to understand that sex was God's idea for mankind's good and enjoyment. Within marriage, it is not a sin. According to the Bible sex is both good (Gen. 1:31) and holy (Heb. 13:4). It was given to man before his fall into sin in the garden of Eden (Gen. 1:27-28; 2:21-25). The Bible says, 'and rejoice in the wife of your youth. As a loving hind and a graceful doe, let her



breasts satisfy you at all times; Be exhilarated always with her love' (Prov. 5:18-19 NASB).

According to God's original plan, sexual relations are to be strictly confined to husbands and wives within the commitment of marriage (I Cor. 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4). But as a result of sin, man has twisted and corrupted God's plan for sex. Practicing sex outside of marriage is a serious sin. Sex is a powerful force. It is like a fire. Fire is possible because of the way God made the world. Fire can be very useful. Fire can be use to cook our food and to heat our homes. But if a house catches fire, it can destroy the house and even kill the people in it. The same is true about sex. Sex is possible because of the way God made men and women. Under God's guidance, sex is one of God's blessings to married people. It is the means of great pleasure and the means of bringing children into the world. Ignoring God's guidance, sex can destroy the home and ruin human lives (Wilbur 284).

### **5.3 Recommendations**

The following recommendations are therefore identified to help an individuals, churches, and couples in particular out of their sexual challenges. So they could experience relief, peace and stability in their homes.

1. Prepare to meet marital challenges. This crisis in some marriages of the present time is due to the fact that many people move into marriage unprepared for challenges. Marital life is a stressful life and a challenging one. Therefore, anyone going into marital life must be ready to meet challenges both socially, financially, spiritually, and culturally.

2. Find ways of enriching marriage. An adage says; “as you lay your bed, so you will lie on it,” and “every man is the architect of his own fortune,” This is to say that the couple must find ways of enriching their marriage by way of good communication between husband and wife, expression of agape love to one another, submission from wife to the husband, sleeping together, planning their future together, playing together and studying the Word of God and praying together.
3. Premarital counseling. This aspect in marriage preparation should be taken seriously, because it will go a long way to help the couple in the future. During counselling sessions the couple should be schooled on “does” and “don’ts” of marriage and the implications of derailment from the biblical standard of marriage.
4. In every marriage, adjustment is very essential in order to ensure success in marriage. When two separately brought up man and woman come to live together permanently, there must be adjustment in marry areas, and especially in the sexual aspect, due to individual natures or differences. The church, through its members, must be awake to their responsibilities in teaching the youths who are yet to get married about sex education and how to choose partners according to the biblical standard and how to keep courtship in Christ like manners. Sex instruction in our churches and Christian gathering is one of the remedies against sexual laxity.
5. Tolerance. There must be forbearance for each other noticing that two people are not the same and in marriage where the husband and wife are not blood relation

