

CouplesInBloom.com – Do They Seem Extreme?

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Do the permanence of Heaven and hell ⇨ Matthew 25:46 **seem extreme?** If you live 100 years on earth and sin every year, would one hundred million years of torture in hell seem sufficient... a million years for each year of sin? The answer is NO! Why not???

- Romans 1:20 ⇨ Everyone sees God's eternal power and exclusive authority; no one has an excuse. We must trust Him as the Truth. *His holiness is too great* for us to know.
- Psalm 147:4 ⇨ God named and numbered every star that exists and has existed, yet the more scientists look for them, the more they find. *His big is too big* for us to know.
- Hebrews 1:3 ⇨ The power of God's Word holds everything together. Scientists look for what holds atoms together, yet prove nothing. *His small is too small* for us to know.

God Is Extreme. His sovereignty is more than we can know. We create *problems* when we forget this. Life gets unbearable and we get *irritated* when we forget that God is sovereign. This carries into marriage and intimacy. Spouses get *irritated* with each other and create *problems* by trying to take authority over what God has sovereignly created. A *spouse who assumes to understand the other is arrogant and will fall* ⇨ Proverbs 16:18.

God made intimacy extreme. Worship in Heaven is *non-stop* ⇨ Revelation 4:8. This *seems too extreme* for us to know: *eternal* worship! Intimacy that never, ever, *ever* ends!

Since God sovereignly patterned human intimacy after relationship with Him, there are **also aspects of sexual and romantic intimacy** that **seem too extreme** for us to know:

One marriage *problem* related to this inability to know: **Husbands** may get *irritated* by their wives inability to know how central God made **sex** to them. Their wives do not experience this **pressure** or feel how intrinsic it is to their emotional and physiological well-being. **The best thing wives can do** about this characteristic is to remember: **1)** that God created it in the pattern of Revelation 4:8, **2)** that it is holy, **3)** that it is part of *their* worship to God to sexually minister to their husbands with the **extreme** of worship that God designed for *His* Bride to give to *Him*... eternally. This is God's pattern and power.

Another marriage *problem* related to this inability to know: **Wives** may get *irritated* by their husbands inability to know how central God made **romance** to them. Their husbands do not experience this **vacuum** or feel how intrinsic it is to their emotional and physiological well-being. **The best thing husbands can do** about this characteristic is to remember: **1)** that God created it in the pattern of John 3:16 and Ephesians 5:25 ⇨ loving to the extent of giving Himself up for *His* Bride, **2)** that it is holy, **3)** that it is part of *their* worship to God to romantically love their wives with the **extreme** love that Christ loves *His* Bride... eternally, and in an "understanding way" (of her needs) ⇨ 1 Peter 3:7 NASB.

Marriage is NOT about you, and neither is Christianity. Each spouse needs to be about the other, and each Christian needs to be about the LORD. God's love is so **extreme** that it **seems** like it's about us... which proves that it works! *No other method maximizes intimacy, nor could one ever*, because **God made intimacy extreme!** Own this: minister to your spouse in a holy way, which just might **seem extreme!** ♥ Loren & Kathy Falzone