WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

Spiritual Fornication

Study Guide

Civil Government

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A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

Date

Contents

Lesson 1: Spiritual Fornication - Part One 3

Major Themes 3

Key Arguments 4

Scripture References 5

Discussion Questions 8

Applications 11

Personal Application and Notes 12

Lesson 2: Spiritual Fornication - Part Two 13

Major Themes 13

Key Arguments 14

Scripture References 15

Discussion Questions 17

Applications 20

Personal Application and Notes 21

Online Lecture Resources 22

Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

Spiritual Fornication

Part One

May 19, 2014

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-24 (October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition).

Major Themes

Spiritual Adultery as Idolatry

Biblical terms for sexual sin primarily denote unfaithfulness to God through idolatry and false worship.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Jeremiah 3:8-9 where Israel's adultery is defined as idolatry with stones and stocks.

Theological Corruption

Stealing, adding to, or substituting God's Word constitutes spiritual fornication.

Lecture support: In Jeremiah 23:30-32, God condemns prophets who steal His words, speak falsely in His name, or substitute dreams for His Word.

Judgment Follows Spiritual Unfaithfulness

God's judgment on individuals and nations is a direct consequence of theological adultery.

Lecture support: Isaiah 1:24-27 and Jeremiah 5:9-10 show God avenging Himself on a nation that commits spiritual whoredom.

Theology Shapes Culture

Cultural decay is rooted in prior theological decay; a change in theology always precedes a change in culture.

Lecture support: Weaver illustrates with India's reincarnation beliefs and Somalia's violence, arguing culture is religion externalized.

Spiritual Adultery Leads to Physical Immorality

Unfaithfulness to God inevitably results in physical sexual sin and societal corruption.

Lecture support: Hosea 4:12-14 states that because of spiritual whoredom, daughters commit whoredom and spouses commit adultery.

The All-Sufficiency of God

Spiritual adultery implies God is insufficient, which is blasphemy against His all-sufficient nature.

Lecture support: Weaver argues that seeking idols or sin declares God insufficient, contradicting His sovereignty.

Key Arguments

Biblical terms for sexual sin are primarily spiritual

Most Old Testament uses of adultery, fornication, whoredom, and harlotry refer to idolatry, not physical acts.

Lecture support: Weaver states that of all Old Testament uses of 'adultery,' only about six refer to physical adultery; the rest are spiritual.

Theological fornication is stealing, adding to, or substituting God's Word

Preachers commit spiritual adultery by not declaring God's Word fully, adding false revelations, or replacing it with human ideas.

Lecture support: Jeremiah 23:30-32 condemns prophets who steal God's words, say 'He saith' when God has not spoken, and prophesy false dreams.

Theological corruption leads to societal corruption

When theology is adulterated, the culture becomes corrupt, rebellious, and unjust.

Lecture support: Isaiah 1:21-23 describes how the faithful city became a harlot, resulting in murder, rebellion, and injustice.

God's judgment fits the crime of spiritual adultery

The law of retribution means spiritual harlotry brings physical harlotry and national destruction.

Lecture support: Amos 7:17 pronounces that the harlot priest's wife will become a harlot and his children will die by the sword.

You cannot change culture without changing theology

Cultural problems are symptoms of theological problems; missions and reform must address underlying beliefs.

Lecture support: Weaver argues that India's poverty and Somalia's violence stem from their theology, not just politics or economics.

Spiritual adultery always leads to physical adultery

Violating the first table of the law (no other gods) leads to violating the second table (no adultery).

Lecture support: Hosea 4:13-14 shows that spiritual whoredom results in daughters and spouses committing physical whoredom and adultery.

Scripture References

2 Chronicles 21:10-13

King Jehoram caused Judah to commit fornication by making high places, leading to a letter from Elijah condemning his whoredoms like Ahab.

Jeremiah 3:8-9

Israel committed adultery and played the harlot by idolatry with stones and stocks.

Jeremiah 5:7-9

Israel committed adultery by forsaking God and swearing by false gods; God asks if He should not avenge such a nation.

Jeremiah 23:14

Prophets commit adultery by walking in lies and strengthening evildoers, becoming like Sodom.

Jeremiah 29:23

Israel committed villainy and adultery with neighbors' wives and spoke lying words in God's name.

Ezekiel 23:37

They committed adultery with idols and caused their sons to pass through fire to Molech.

Isaiah 1:21-31

The faithful city became a harlot; silver became dross, wine mixed with water; judgment will purify and restore.

Jeremiah 23:25-32

God condemns prophets who steal His words, add to them, or substitute false dreams, profiting no one.

Hebrews 1:1-3

God spoke in the past through prophets but in these last days has spoken by His Son, the full and final revelation.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness.

John 1:1-3, 14

Jesus Christ is the living Word made flesh; the Bible is the written Word; they stand or fall together.

John 12:48

Rejecting Christ and His words brings judgment by the word He has spoken.

Zephaniah 3:4

Prophets are light and treacherous; priests have polluted the sanctuary and done violence to the law.

Amos 7:12-17

Amaziah the harlot priest is told his wife will be a harlot and his children will die by the sword as retribution.

Jeremiah 5:7-11, 22-29

A nation that commits adultery with idols will have its defenses removed and face God's vengeance.

Hosea 4:12-14

A spirit of whoredoms causes Israel to err; therefore their daughters commit whoredom and spouses adultery.

Revelation 2:18-23

The church at Thyatira tolerated Jezebel who seduced servants to commit fornication and eat idol sacrifices.

Hosea 8:14

Israel forgot his Maker and built temples, focusing on their own works rather than God.

Exodus 20:14

The seventh commandment, 'Thou shalt not commit adultery,' is exceedingly broad, covering spiritual adultery.

Psalm 119:96

David said God's commandment is exceeding broad, implying it covers more than physical adultery.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. In what ways might we be guilty of 'theological fornication' by stealing, adding to, or substituting God's Word in our own lives or churches?

Consider: Weaver defines theological fornication as mishandling God's Word, as seen in Jeremiah 23.

2. How does the principle that 'a change in theology always precedes a change in culture' explain the moral decline we see today?

Consider: Weaver argues that cultural decay is rooted in prior theological decay.

3. Why does spiritual adultery inevitably lead to physical adultery, according to Hosea 4 and Revelation 2?

Consider: Weaver shows the connection between idolatry and immorality.

4. What does it mean that 'culture is nothing more than religion externalized'? Can you give modern examples?

Consider: Weaver uses India and Somalia as illustrations of theology shaping culture.

5. How should the law of retribution (Lex Talionis) seen in Amos 7 shape our understanding of God's judgment on nations?

Consider: Weaver explains that God makes the punishment fit the crime of spiritual harlotry.

6. In what ways might we be 'building temples' while forgetting God, as in Hosea 8:14?

Consider: Weaver applies this verse to modern churches focused on their own ministries rather than God.

7. How can we guard against the 'spirit of whoredoms' that drives us away from God?

Consider: Weaver warns of a spiritual force that compels unfaithfulness, referencing Hosea 4:12.

8. What does it practically mean to treat God as all-sufficient in a culture that constantly offers substitutes?

Consider: Weaver concludes that spiritual adultery declares God insufficient.

Applications

Examine our fidelity to God's Word

We must ask whether we are theological fornicators who play loose with Scripture, treating God with contempt.

Lecture support: Weaver directly asks, 'Are we theological fornicators? Have we played light and loose with the Word of God?'

Evaluate our life's main purpose

Our primary aim should be to honor and glorify God, not to build our own kingdoms or ministries.

Lecture support: Weaver challenges listeners to consider if their main purpose is to honor God or something else, citing Hosea 8:14.

Resist the spirit of whoredoms

We must actively fight against the spiritual force that compels us toward unfaithfulness to God.

Lecture support: Weaver warns of the 'spirit of whoredoms' from Hosea 4:12 that causes people to err.

Return to the all-sufficient God

We need to come back to a theological foundation that acknowledges God as all-sufficient and His Word as true.

Lecture support: Weaver calls for a return to the 'theological and ideological foundation of the one true God and His Word.'

Study biblical terms for spiritual adultery

Weaver encourages a personal Bible study to underline words like adultery, fornication, whoredom, and harlot to see their spiritual emphasis.

Lecture support: He suggests reading through the Bible and underlining these terms to discover their frequent spiritual reference.

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 2

Spiritual Fornication

Part Two

May 20, 2014

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 25-50 (October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition).

Major Themes

Spiritual Fornication in Government

Rejecting God's rule and law in favor of man's law is spiritual adultery, just as idolatry was in the Old Testament.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'God considers an ungodly and reprobate civil government as fornication - spiritual fornication.'

Covenantal Nature of All Government

All government, including civil, is based on covenants. God ordained rulers as His ministers to execute righteousness.

Lecture support: Weaver explains Romans 13, showing rulers are 'ministers of God' and the Constitution is a covenant.

One God, One Law

God is one, and His law is one unified standard. To reject His law is to reject Him and commit spiritual adultery.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'God is one and His law is one... they could not and we cannot leave God or His law without committing spiritual fornication.'

The Source of Law Reveals the God

The law a society follows reveals its true god. Modern statism makes the state the source of law, replacing God.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'The source of one's law is his God. If you can discover the source of the law of a society, you can discover who the God of that society really is.'

Judgment for National Apostasy

God judges nations that reject Him and His law, as seen in Israel and Judah, and will judge America similarly.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'He judged Israel. He judged Judah. He's going to judge us. We're doing the same thing they did.'

Key Arguments

Theological fornication leads to civil fornication

Error in theology inevitably leads to error in government and society, as seen in Jehoram's reign.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Theological fornication always precedes a change in culture and also a change in our lives and a change in society.'

Government is God's minister for righteousness

Romans 13 teaches that civil rulers are ordained by God as deacons and exactors of His righteousness, not autonomous lawmakers.

Lecture support: Weaver explains the Greek words diakonos and ekdikos, showing government is to serve God's justice.

Rejecting God's law is rejecting God Himself

Since a king rules by his law, to reject God's law is to reject His reign, which is spiritual adultery.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'When you reject God, you're rejecting his law... a king rules by his law.'

Statism is a rival religion

Modern political correctness and statism are religious systems that replace God with the state as the source of law and morality.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Hegel, Fichte, Hitler, and Mussolini to show the state is viewed as divine.

God's law is liberty, man's law is bondage

Contrary to popular belief, God's law brings freedom, while man's law leads to oppression and tyranny.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'God's law is called the law of liberty. We have liberty under God's law. It's man's law that is in bondage.'

Scripture References

2 Chronicles 21:10-13

Jehoram's idolatry and compulsion of Judah to commit fornication, leading to Elijah's prophetic rebuke.

2 Kings 18:18

Jehoram did evil and walked in the ways of Ahab.

2 Chronicles 21:5-6

Jehoram's wickedness attributed to his marriage to Athaliah, daughter of Ahab.

2 Chronicles 21:2-4

Jehoram murdered his brothers to secure his throne.

2 Kings 11:1-3

Athaliah destroyed the royal seed except Joash who was hidden.

Hosea 1:2, 6

Hosea's marriage pictures Israel's whoredom; God declares He will no more have mercy.

Romans 13:1-4, 6

Civil rulers are ordained by God as ministers for good, to execute wrath on evildoers.

2 Kings 11:17

Jehoiada made a covenant between the Lord, the king, and the people.

2 Chronicles 23:16

Jehoiada made a covenant that they should be the Lord's people.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

The Shema: God is one, and His commandments are to be taught diligently.

1 Samuel 8:4-20

Israel demands a king, rejecting God's rule; Samuel warns of the consequences.

Deuteronomy 4:5-8

Israel's uniqueness was having God's righteous laws and His nearness.

1 Samuel 10:19

Samuel tells Israel they have rejected God who saved them.

1 Samuel 12:12

Israel demanded a king when the Lord was their king.

2 Kings 17:7-19

Israel's sin of walking in heathen statutes and rejecting God's covenant led to captivity.

Micah 6:13-16

Judgment comes because the statutes of Omri and works of Ahab are kept.

2 Chronicles 36:15-17

God sent messengers, but they were mocked until wrath came without remedy.

Proverbs 8:35-36

Those who find wisdom find life; those who hate wisdom love death.

Study notes

Discussion Questions

1. How does theological error lead to changes in civil government and society?

Consider: Weaver argues that theological fornication always precedes cultural and societal change.

2. In what ways is all government covenantal, and how does this affect our view of civil authority?

Consider: Weaver explains the covenants in 2 Kings 11 and 2 Chronicles 23, and applies it to the U.S. Constitution.

3. What does it mean that 'the source of one's law is his God'? How can we identify the god of our society?

Consider: Weaver states that the law a society follows reveals its true god.

4. Why did Israel want a king, and how does that desire reflect modern attitudes toward government?

Consider: Israel wanted to be like other nations and have a king to fight their battles, rejecting God's direct rule.

5. What are the practical consequences of a nation rejecting God's law, as seen in 1 Samuel 8?

Consider: God warned of military conscription, forced labor, property seizure, and oppressive taxation.

6. How should Christians respond when civil government enacts laws contrary to God's law?

Consider: Weaver mentions that unconstitutional laws are not binding, implying a higher loyalty to God's law.

7. What does it mean to rebuild society on God's law, and is that possible today?

Consider: Weaver asks what law structure we would use if society collapsed, urging a biblical foundation.

Applications

Examine your own submission to God's law

Recognize that rejecting God's commands in any area is spiritual fornication; commit to obeying His law as an act of loyalty.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'We do what we do because we believe what we believe... If you don't know the truth, very obviously you are not free.'

Choose a spouse who fears God

Jehoram's marriage to Athaliah led him into greater wickedness; believers should marry only in the Lord.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'It does matter who you marry. Because Jehoram married wrong... his wife even made him more wicked.'

Pray for and teach your children, but trust God for their salvation

Godly parents cannot guarantee godly children; only God can save. Faithful parenting must be accompanied by prayer.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'All a godly person can do is pray for their children, witness to their children... but only God can save them.'

Recognize the religious nature of all law

Understand that every law reflects someone's god; evaluate laws by Scripture, not by state approval.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'All law is religious... behind every law that man issues is a determination of what is right and wrong.'

Reject the idolatry of statism

Do not look to government as provider, protector, or moral authority; trust God alone for these roles.

Lecture support: Weaver warns, 'It is an enthroning of man and a dethroning of God.'

Prepare to rebuild on God's law

If society collapses, be ready to advocate for a biblical law structure rather than humanistic systems.

Lecture support: Weaver asks, 'Whose law structure would you use to rebuild society?' and implies only God's law brings life.

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

Lesson 1: Spiritual Fornication - Part One

Lecture JW00577

Open the formatted lecture online

https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00577&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

Lesson 2: Spiritual Fornication - Part Two

Lecture JW00576

Open the formatted lecture online

https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00576&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

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Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

Layout upgraded September 30, 2026. Original manuscripts, study-guide data, and previous PDFs have not been changed.