# "The Last Word: The Scarlet Letter"

#### The Scarlet Letter

#### The Scarlet Sinner

- John 8:2-12
- Desire of Ages: "[Jesus] read the heart, and knew the character and life history of everyone in His
  presence. These would-be guardians of justice had themselves led their victim into sin, that they
  might lay a snare for Jesus... But as their eyes, following those of Jesus, fell upon the
  pavement at His feet, their countenances changed. There, traced before them, were the guilty
  secrets of their own lives." (461)
- Desire of Ages: "Her heart was melted, and she cast herself at the feet of Jesus, sobbing out her grateful love, and with bitter tears confessing her sins. This was to her the beginning of a new life, a life of purity and peace, devoted to the service of God. In the uplifting of this fallen soul, Jesus performed a greater miracle than in healing the most grievous physical disease; He cured the spiritual malady which is unto death everlasting. This penitent woman became one of His most steadfast followers. With self-sacrificing love and devotion she repaid His forgiving mercy." (462)

### D The Scarlet Savior

- Jesus' Admonition Part 2: "Go and sin no more."
  - The STD HPV (human papilloma virus)
  - Center for Disease Control: "HPV is passed on through genital contact—most often during vaginal and anal sex. HPV may also be passed on during oral sex. Since HPV usually causes no symptoms, most men and women can get HPV—and pass it on—without realizing it. People can have HPV even if years have passed since they had sex. Even men with only one lifetime sex partner can get HPV." (http://www.cdc.gov/std/hpv/STDFact-HPV-and-men.htm)
  - New York Times: "HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the United States. Scientists estimate that half of sexually active men and women have been infected and that 80 percent of women have had it by age 50. The virus has many strains, only some of which cause cancer." (http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/25/health/research/25theory.html)
  - A case study . . .
  - Galatians 6:7—"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man \_\_\_\_\_, that he will also \_\_\_\_\_\_."
  - The David and Bathsheeba case study: David lost his \_\_\_\_\_ authority with his children— some of whom went out and repeated his sin in spades.
- If you are suffering from sexual addiction—be it pornography, illicit sex of any kind—here is how to cooperate with the scarlet Savior:
  - Become accountable to \_\_\_\_\_\_ (personal counselor or trusted, mature friend).
  - Join a \_\_\_\_\_ group for sex addiction.
  - Eliminate all \_\_\_\_\_ in your life—web sites, DVDs, sexually suggestive movies and music, magazines, novels, alone in parked cars or an apartment, et al.
  - Begin daily \_\_\_\_\_ exercise for physical release.
  - Begin daily \_\_\_\_\_\_ exercise through active prayer and Bible study (go to <u>www.pmchurch.tv</u>, click on the banner, "A New Way to Pray").
  - Shift the focus of your life to \_\_\_\_\_\_ for others.
  - Thank God moment by moment for the \_\_\_\_\_\_ He is bringing you.
  - Jesus' Admonition Part 1: "Neither do I condemn you."
  - John 3:16-17
  - Romans 8:1—"There is therefore now no \_\_\_\_\_\_ to those who are in Christ Jesus."
  - Desire of Ages: "Jesus knows the circumstances of every soul. You may say, I am sinful, very sinful. You may be; but the worse you are, the more you need Jesus. He turns no weeping, contrite one away. He does not tell to any all that He might reveal, but He bids every trembling soul take courage. Freely will He pardon all who come to Him for forgiveness and restoration." (568)

## "There were left [but] two, the pitiable woman and Pity." —Augustine

sows, reap, moral, someone else, 12-step, triggers, physical, spiritual, service, freedom, condemnation