

My Two “Friends”

By Jim Thornton

I have two friends and they are always arguing about who was the better person. To prove their worth, they used to give some of the following excuses to justify their actions. One’s name was Gluttony and the other’s name was Lascivious. See who you think had the better defense of his actions.

Gluttony – used to say:

- I don’t eat anything that is illegal.
- It is not immoral to overeat it is just a matter of taste.
- After all one can’t live without eating, can they?
- Who am I hurting if I have a habit of over eating?
- It’s not like I’m a glutton, I just like to eat.
- I realize some people take their liberty too far but not me.

Lascivious – used to say:

- I don’t view anything that is illegal.
- It is not immoral to view porn it is just a matter of taste.
- After all one can’t live without sex, can they?
- Who am I hurting if I have a habit of viewing porn?
- It’s not like I’m a pervert, I just like sex.
- I realize some people take their liberty too far but not me.

I don’t know if you have any friends like my two friends but all human nature seems to run in the same vein. We can see the faults of others, but our own particular brand of sin is acceptable. The Bible tells us that we are no longer bound to sin and we do not have to obey its urges.

Romans 7:4-6, (The Message) “When Christ died he took that entire rule-dominated way of life down with him and left it in the tomb, leaving you free to “marry” a resurrection life and bear “offspring” of faith for God. For as long as we lived that old way of life, doing whatever we felt we could get away with, sin was calling most of the shots as the old law code hemmed us in. And this made us all the more rebellious. In the end, all we had to show for it was miscarriages and stillbirths. But now that we’re no longer shackled to that domineering mate of sin, and out from under all those oppressive regulations and fine print, we’re free to live a new life in the freedom of God. “