

RAY ORTLUND

THE
DEATH
OF
PORN

— STUDY GUIDE —

MEN OF
INTEGRITY
BUILDING
A WORLD OF
NOBILITY

The Death of Porn Study Guide

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Study Guide

*Men of Integrity Building a
World of Nobility*

Ray Ortlund

The Death of Porn Study Guide: Men of Integrity Building a World of Nobility

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PART 1

REINTRODUCING
THE CHARACTERS

You Are Royalty

Chapter Summary

You matter more than you know. You have God-given dignity that can make you fully alive and empower you to change the future. Here's your true identity: *you are royalty*. God the King created you in his image to represent him in the world. This is why even from childhood we all have a sense of destiny—we all long to fulfill some big, bold, and noble purpose. This is what we can recover—that God created us for a purpose of greatness in our generation.

Our problem is not that we need more religion, more effort at being nicer, or more success at fulfilling our dreams. Our problem is that we have trivialized God, and then we have trivialized our own God-created selves. We are royal, but we are now also evil. We need to be re-created in God's image all over again. We change not by a religious try-harder mentality but only through the grace of Jesus. Jesus lived the faithful life we fail to live and died the shameful death we deserve to die, in order to bring us the forgiveness and renewal we need. The cross shows us that God is welcoming us out of hiding to receive mercy. We take two steps in response: believe that Jesus considers us worth fighting for, and prepare for battle.

Texts for Meditation and Memorization

Psalms 8:3–5

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old
has passed away; behold, the new has come.



Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. As you read the first letter, what one insight stood out to you the most, and why that one?

2. The Bible tells us who we really are: *royalty*, created in the image of God our King. Why can it be hard for us to believe, really believe, in our God-given dignity? What are the opposite messages coming at us from this world?

3. Religion tells us to do better and try harder and pedal faster. In your life, what are examples of when you've attempted to change yourself with this mindset? *Why* doesn't this bring about the change we most deeply need?

4. As we dare to believe in our true identity, defined for us by God himself, what are some positive differences that awareness of this can make in us?

5. What aspect of who Jesus is and what he did for us was most encouraging to you?

Prayer

Father, thank you for giving me a royal identity and noble purpose. I confess that I have trivialized you and your calling on my life. I've been enslaved to sin and am unable to clean up the mess I've made. Thank you for sending Jesus to forgive and renew me. I receive your welcome. I trust your heart of love for me. I'm open to your renewing work to redeem every part of my heart and life. Thank you for giving me this hope. In Jesus's royal name. Amen.