

Jesus Said What?

Adultery in the Heart

(Part Two)

(Matthew 5)

- Introduction:
1. The Sermon on the Mount is the longest recorded sermon we have of Jesus.
 2. The sermon can be summed up as a “righteousness that must exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees.”
 - a. In other words, we must genuine.
 - b. Our heart is just as important as our actions.
 3. While much of what he said in this sermon is straight forward and easy to understand, there are some comments that generate questions from us and we may struggle a bit in understanding.
 4. Let’s look at a few of these tonight, and probably next week as well.

I. Adultery in the Heart

- A. (Matthew 5:27-28).
- B. Lust = Adultery.
 1. Therefore, some have contended that pornography is grounds for divorce and remarriage.
 2. Let’s consider if this is true.
- C. Definition of “fornication.”
 1. Every Greek lexicon I know has translated this word as sexual intercourse.
 2. Sexual immorality is too broad.
 - a. Are not dirty jokes, watching a movie with sexual immorality involved, watching some TV commercials, reading a salacious book.
 - b. Pornography would be better understood by terms like lasciviousness and uncleanness.
 3. We acknowledge a distinction between the thoughts of the heart and those thoughts being carried out in action.
 4. Consider the context of Anger without a cause = Murder.
- D. Distinction between literal and figurative adultery.
 1. Friendship of the world is adultery – James 4:4.
 2. Worshiping idols (Hosea 1:2).
- E. Some may argue that it is too painful to stay together.
 1. But if this is the measure, what about verbal abuse, inconsideration, selfishness, etc.?

II. Jesus’ Teaching on Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage

- A. A Survey of Matthew 19:1-12.

- Conclusion:
1. While pornography is a sin that has far reaching consequences, one of those consequences is not the right to divorce and remarry.
 2. Fornication, and fornication alone is the only grounds for a Scriptural divorce and subsequent remarriage.