

The Deadly Sin of Lust – Pt. 3

Matthew 5:27–30

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MAIN IDEA: In Matthew 5:27–30, Jesus Christ addresses the sin of lust. And he teaches that in God’s eyes, sinful lust violates the seventh commandment (“You shall not commit adultery”).

SERMON OUTLINE:

- I. The Law against Adultery Recalled (27)
- II. The Law against Adultery Misinterpreted (27-28)
- III. The Law against Adultery Explained (28)
 - A. The Sin that Jesus Condemns (28a)
 - B. The Guilt that Jesus Pronounces (28b)**
 1. **The Verdict (28b) – “he has already committed adultery...in his heart”**
 2. **The Sentence (29-30) – “to be thrown into hell”**
 - C. **The Forgiveness that Jesus Offers (cf. Jn. 13:10)**
 1. **The Once-for-all Legal Forgiveness of our Judge (Jn. 13:10; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; 2 Cor. 5:21)**
 2. **The Ongoing Relational Forgiveness of our Father (Jn. 13:10; 1 Jn. 1:7, 9)**
- IV. **The Law against Adultery Applied (29-30)**
 - A. **A. What Jesus Does Not Mean – physical mutilation**
 1. **The apostles were guilty of lust but didn’t mutilate their bodies.**
 2. **Eyes and hands don’t cause us to sin—hearts do.**
 3. **Tearing out your right eye won’t keep you from lust.**
 4. **Church history confirms Jesus is making a spiritual point.**
 5. **Col. 2:20-23 says that harsh treatment of the body is of no value**
 - B. **What Jesus Does Mean – spiritual zeal**
 1. **Accept Full Responsibility**
 2. **Have Zero Tolerance**
 3. **Do Whatever’s Necessary**
 - C. **What Scripture Counsels**
 1. **Develop a habit of thanksgiving (Eph. 5:4)**
 2. **Use the Word (Ps. 119:11; Jn. 17:17; Eph. 6:17)**
 3. **Pray (Mt. 6:13)**
 4. **Run...**
 - **Leave the place of temptation (Gen. 39:9-12)**
 - **Stay away from people and places that tempt you to sexual sin (Pr. 5:8)**
 - **Make it hard to sin (Rom. 13:14)**
 5. **Enjoy the gift of physical intimacy (Pr. 5:15-20; 1 Cor. 7:1-5, 8-9)**

