

Sermon on the Mount Series
"Jesus Teaches on Lust and Divorce"
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Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all Scriptures are from the NKJV Bible.

Matthew 5:27-32 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast *it* from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast *it* from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. Furthermore it has been said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery."

"You have heard it said...But I say to you..."

Adultery in the Heart

Matthew 5:27- 30 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell."

- The word Jesus uses for looking is a present participle which means it keeps going and going and going. "Keep looking"
- Lust is when you look in order to fulfill your fantasy.
- Lust is looking. Lust is adultery.
- Take drastic measures to stop lusting.
- Job 31:1 "I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman?"
- James 1:14-15 "But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."

Marriage Is Sacred and Binding.

Matthew 5:31-32 “Furthermore it has been said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.”

- At that time in history... Deuteronomy 24:1 “When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some uncleanness in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce, puts it in her hand, and sends her out of his house...”
- A woman was given no value or rights and was considered a piece of property that could be treated however her husband wished. He could “Put her away.” (In Matthew 1:19 Joseph was going to put Mary away privately.)
- Two main Rabbinical teachers “Shammai (conservative) and Hillel (liberal)”
- Malachi 2:16 “For the Lord God of Israel says That He hates divorce, For it covers one's garment with violence,” Says the Lord of hosts. “Therefore take heed to your spirit, That you do not deal treacherously.”
- Matthew 19:8-10 “He said to them, ‘Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.’ His disciples said to Him, ‘If such is the case of the man with his wife, it is better not to marry.’”
- The only reason Jesus was talking about divorce was because of the hardness of their hearts.
- A person will get out of a marriage what he or she is willing to put into it.
- Marriages between a husband and a wife are to be a representation of Christ and the Church.
- Divorce and adultery are not on God’s list of unforgivable sins.
- Are you doing everything you can to make your marriage awesome?
- Are you giving everything you’ve got to the one you’ve given your life to?

Our Compassionate High Priest

Hebrews 4:14-16 “Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”