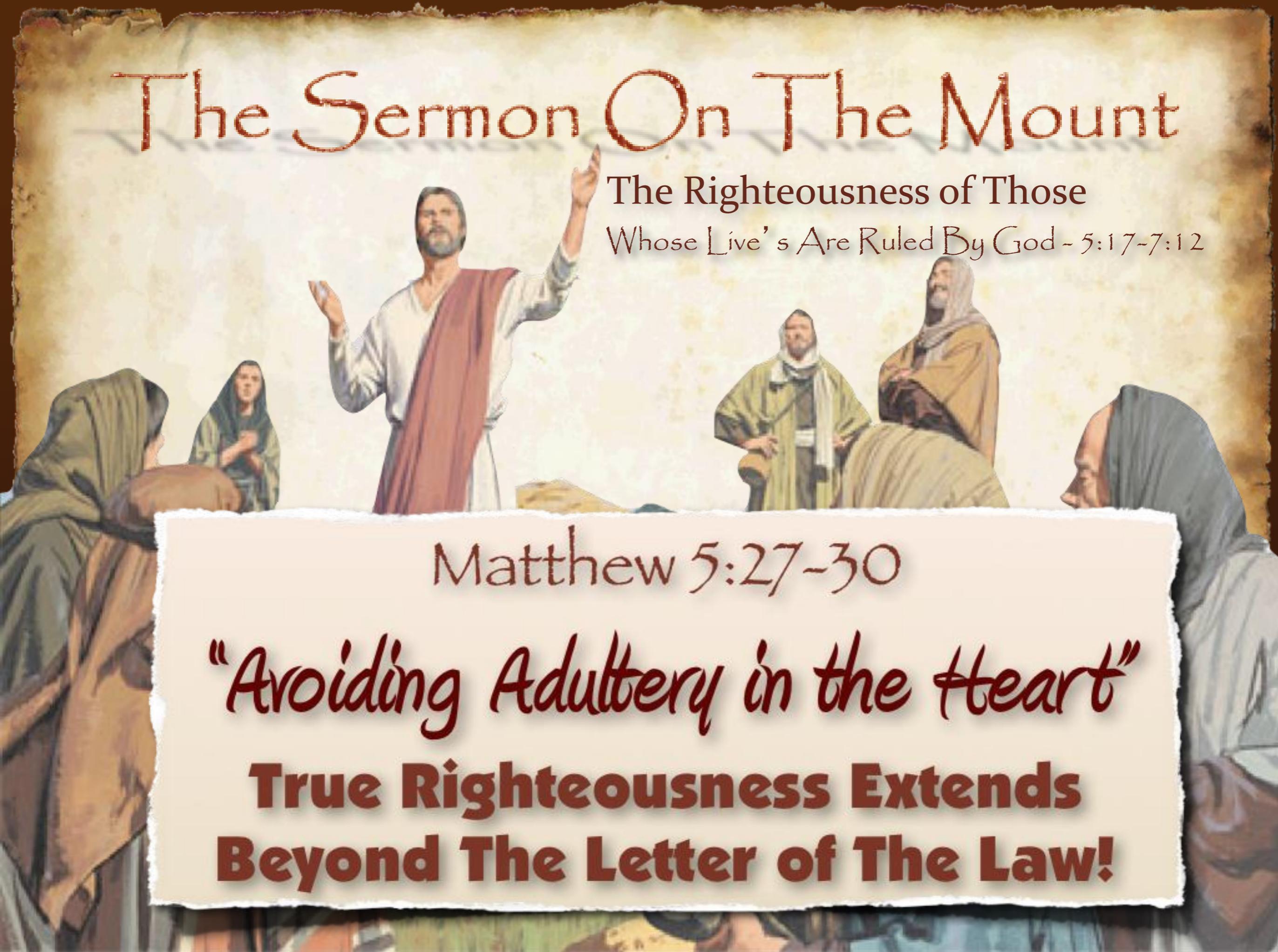


The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those
Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-7:12



Matthew 5:27-30

"Avoiding Adultery in the Heart"

**True Righteousness Extends
Beyond The Letter of The Law!**

The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those

Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-7:12



Matthew 5:27-30

"Avoiding Adultery in the Heart"

Having dealt with hatred & malice, Jesus next deals with the problem of lust.

The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those
Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-
7:12

Adultery is SIN! - 5:27

*One can be guilty of adultery before
God without committing the act - 5:28*

Sin is serious - 5:29-30

*We must take radical steps to avoid
sin - 5:29-30*

The Sermon On The Mount

Matthew 5:27–30 (NKJV)

27 “You have heard that it was said to those of old, *‘You shall not commit adultery.’*²⁸ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

The Sermon On The Mount

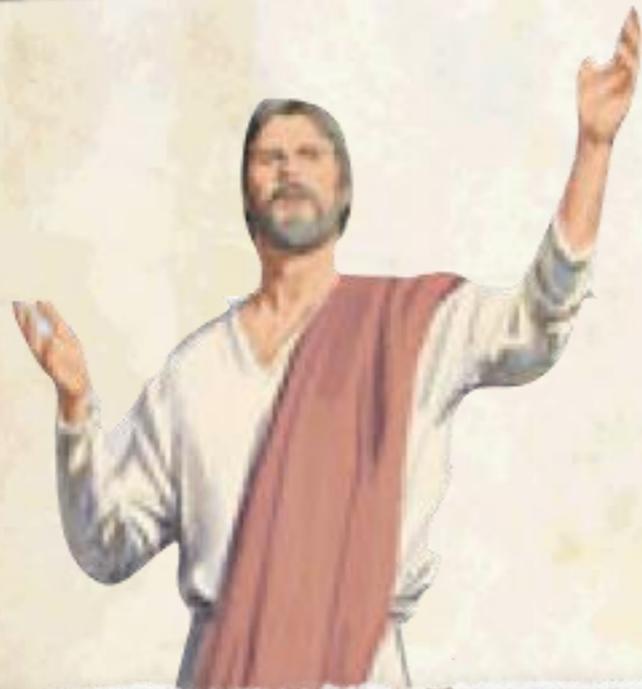
5

Matthew 5:27–30 (NKJV)

²⁹ 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. ³⁰ 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 Sermon On The Mount

You have heard that it was said to those of old,



Jesus did not set himself against the law of Moses, but against the false and pernicious interpretations of the law prevalent in his time.

- 21 ‘You shall not **murder**, . . .
- 27 ‘You shall not commit **adultery.**’ . . .
- 31 ‘Whoever **divorces** his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ . . .
- 33 ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your **oaths** to the Lord.’ . . .
- 38 ‘An **eye for an eye** and a tooth for a tooth.’ . . .
- 43 ‘You shall **love your neighbor** and hate your enemy.’ . . .

The Sermon On The Mount

You have heard that it was said to those of old,

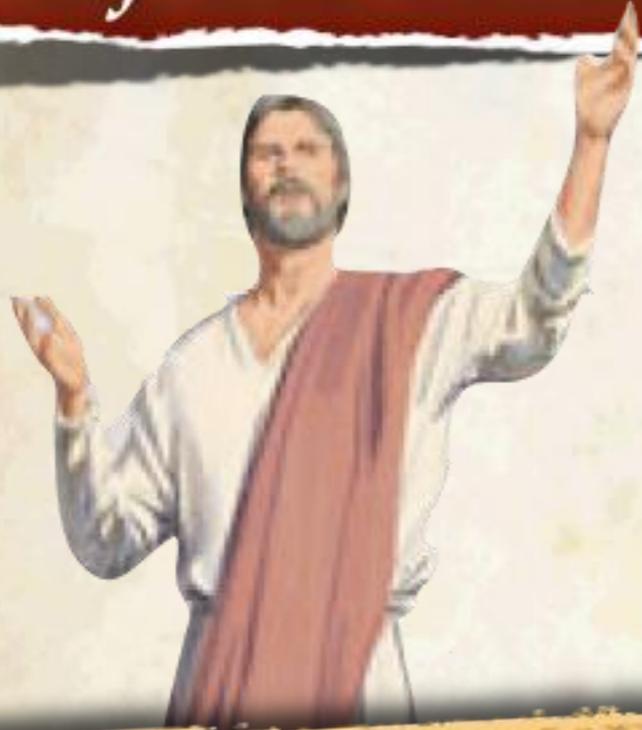


“Jesus expresses His total allegiance to the Old Testament Law in Matthew 5:17–18. At the same time He points out the inadequacy of the views held by the teachers of His day. The many illustrations Jesus then develops make His point. Law identifies behaviors which are wrong. But it also reveals attitudes, values, and motives which must be transformed if human beings are to be truly in harmony with God (5:19–48).”

Richards, L. O. (1991). *The Bible readers companion* (electronic ed.). Wheaton: Victor Books.

The Sermon On The Mount

The "Traditional Interpretation And Application" ... Of The Seventh Commandment (28-30)



Matthew 5:27 (NKJV)

27 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.'



Adultery - (Gk. moicheía). The seventh commandment forbids a married person to have sexual relations with a person who is not his or her spouse (Exod. 20:14; Deut. 5:18; cf. Lev. 18:20).



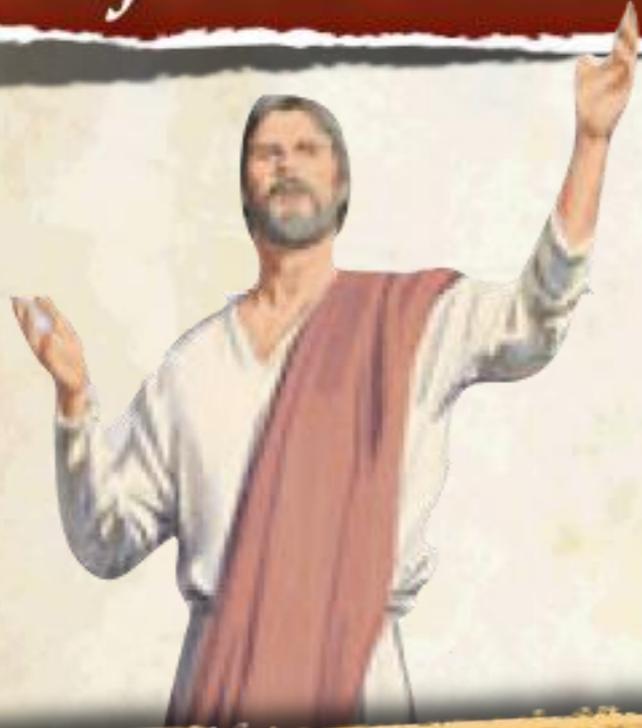
The Mosaic law condemned to death anyone who committed adultery (Lev. 20:10; Deut. 22:22)



The Mosaic Law ALSO condemned "lust" - (Ex 20:17)

The Sermon On The Mount

The "Traditional Interpretation And Application" ... Of The Seventh Commandment (28-30)



Matthew 5:27 (NKJV)

²⁷ "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.'



Emphasizing the "letter" of the Law, but not appreciating the "spirit" behind the Law.



They correctly quoted the commandment, but they missed its point, and only dealt with the issue of adultery superficially –



Once again the Pharisees' teaching was concerned only with the outward act and the resultant temporal consequences.

The Sermon On The Mount

10

“But I say to you . . .”



📖 Jesus was preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom - (4:23)

📖 Pharisaic righteousness is not enough to gain entrance into the coming kingdom - (5:20).

📖 A contrast of their teaching (“*you have heard it said*”), vs. His teaching, (“*But I say unto you*”)

The Sermon On The Mount

“But I say to you . . .”



Matthew 5:28 (NKJV)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

 Jesus strikes at the heart of the problem - He tracks the sin of adultery to its lair.

 Jesus points out that one's right standing before God not only depends on what is done - but also what is harbored in their heart.

 One is just as guilty before God when he “looks” at a woman to “lust for her” in his heart.

The Sermon On The Mount

“... whoever looks at a woman to lust for her ...”



Matthew 5:28 (NKJV)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

📖 Not the “looking” only - but the “looking at a woman TO LUST for her” ...

📖 “to LUST for her” - επιθυμew <G1937>, . . . properly, “to keep the θυμος turned upon a thing,” hence (cf. our “to set one’s heart upon”) “to have a desire for, long for”; absolutely, “to desire” - Thayer - *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*.

The Sermon On The Mount

“... whoever looks at a woman to lust for her ...”



Matthew 5:28 (NKJV)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

 The term lust, ἐπιθυμέω **epithumeō**, is a neutral term in and of itself. The object desired determines if the desire is sinful or not -

 Strong: - “... may be used for the natural desire of hunger, Lk. 15:16; 16:21, or longing, Lk. 22:15; 1 Th. 2:17, also Rev. 9:6; Ac. 20:33; Jm. 4:2, or a desire for the divine mysteries, Mt. 13:17; Lk. 17:22; 1 Pt. 1:12,31 or for anything good, Phil. 1:23;32 1 Tm. 3:1; Heb. 6:11.3”

The Sermon On The Mount

14

“... *whoever looks at a woman to lust for her ...*”



Matthew 5:28 (NKJV)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Matthew 13:17

¹⁷“for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous *men* desired, (*epithumeo*), to see what you see, and did not see *it*, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear *it*.”

The Sermon On The Mount

15

“... *whoever looks at a woman to lust for her...*”



Matthew 5:28 (NKJV)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Luke 16:21

²⁰“But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, ²¹“desiring (*epithumeo*), to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table.

The Sermon On The Mount

“... *whoever looks at a woman to lust for her...*”



Matthew 5:28 (NKJV)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

1 Timothy 3:1 This is a faithful saying: If a man desires (*epithumeo*), the position of a bishop, he desires a good work.

The Sermon On The Mount

17

“... whoever looks at a woman to lust for her ...”



Matthew 5:28 (NKJV)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Hebrews 6:11

And we desire (**epithumeo**), that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end,

The Sermon On The Mount

“... whoever looks at a woman to lust for her ...”



Matthew 5:28 (NKJV)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Luke 22:15 Then He said to them, “**With fervent desire** (epithumeo), I have desired (epithumia - James 1:14) to eat this Passover with you before I suffer;

The Sermon On The Mount

“... whoever looks at a woman to lust for her ...”



Matthew 5:28 (NKJV)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

📖 Not simply the admiration for beauty -

📖 Obviously not simply the passing thought of temptation, otherwise there would be no distinction between temptation and sin - (James 1:13-15)

📖 It is the harboring in the heart & the effect upon the will which only lacks in opportunity.

The Sermon On The Mount

"... whoever looks at a woman to lust for her ..."

Genesis 39:7 (NKJV)

And it came to pass after these things that his master's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me."



The Sermon On The Mount

21

“... whoever looks at a woman to lust for her ...”



2 Samuel 11:2 (NKJV)

... And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold.

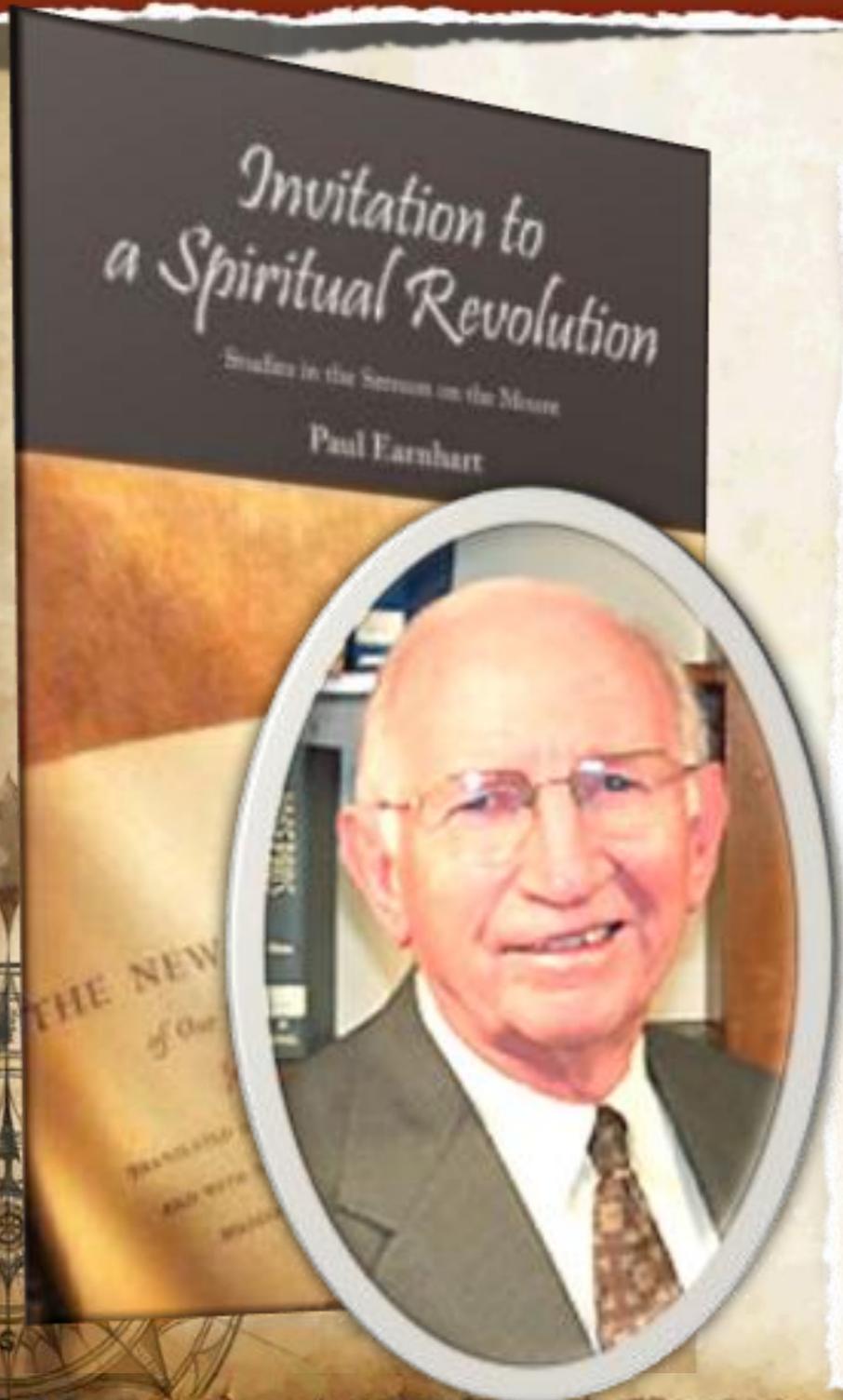
When desire is enticed and the will yields - James 1:14,16

📖 David's sin was not merely “seeing” Bathsheba - but the looking upon her - i.e., the setting of the mind upon her

📖 David sinned the moment he yielded in his mind to the temptation.

The Sermon On The Mount

“... whoever looks at a woman to lust for her ...”



“The sin being described by Jesus is the calculated cultivation of the desire to possess one to whom you have no right. If this sin is to be escaped, the very first approach of such thoughts must be decisively rejected, before they can take possession of the mind and will”

The Sermon On The Mount

23

“... has already committed adultery with her in his heart ...”



Matthew 5:28 (NKJV)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

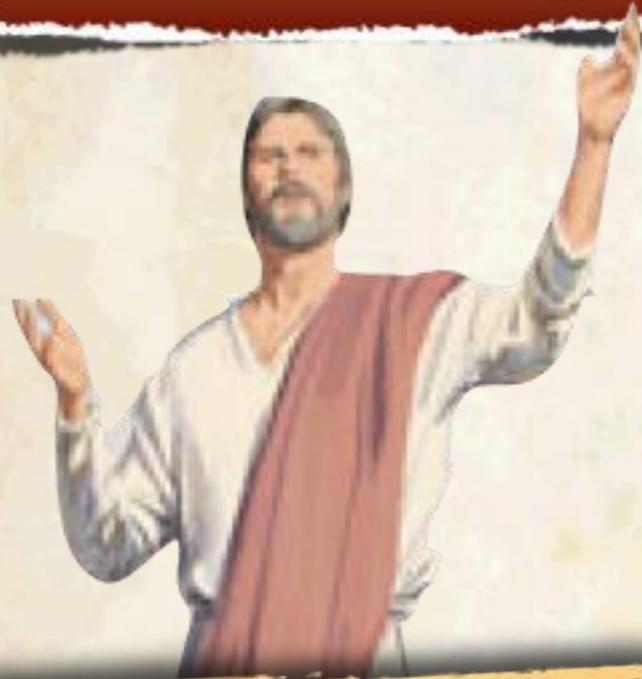
 One is guilty of adultery in the eyes of God when he / she succumbs to the temptation of adultery in the heart / mind.

 However - this truth does not mean that being guilty of adultery in the heart and committing the actual physical act are exactly the same in every aspect - (1 Sam. 16:7; Heb 4:13)

The Sermon On The Mount

24

Sin Is Serious -



2 Corinthians 10:5 (NKJV)

casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Radical Steps Should Be Taken To Prevent It

-  Amputation is indeed a radical step, but eminently sensible when necessary to save a life.
-  Hyperbole emphasizing the serious nature of sin - (*Mt 18:8,9*)
-  Every evil thought and source of temptation should be put as far away from us as possible!

The Sermon On The Mount

25

Sin Is Serious -



Radical Steps Should Be Taken To Prevent It

Colossians 3:5-6 (NKJV)

⁵ Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,

The Sermon On The Mount

Sin Is Serious -



Radical Steps Should Be Taken To Prevent It

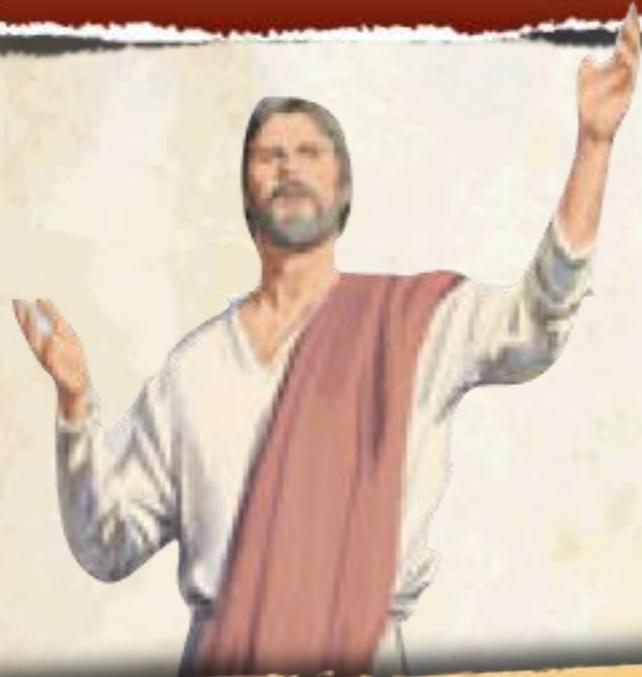
 **Put to death -**

-  Evil affections
-  Illicit relationships
-  Sinful habits
-  Sinful attitudes
-  Inappropriate values

The Sermon On The Mount

27

Sin Is Serious -



Matthew 16:26 (NKJV)

For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Radical Steps Should Be Taken To Prevent It



Delay can be deadly!



Halfway measures, halfhearted efforts, only give sin time to wreak havoc!



"Radical surgery" is what's necessary to treat the "cancer" of sin - and can be very painful!



Cut off **ANYTHING** that tempts you to sin!

The Sermon On The Mount

Avoiding Adultery - Prov 5

The consequences of yielding are severe -

 Loss of family, reputation, happiness, health, life & most importantly, the soul -
5:4-6, 10.11,21-23; 1 Cor. 6:9;
Gal 5:19; Heb 13:4; Rev 21:8



The Sermon On The Mount

Avoiding Adultery - Prov 5



-  **Listen to God** - (love, respect, and hold to His word) - Proverbs 5:1,2,7, 6:32; Ps 119:11
-  **Flee temptation** - (5:8; Gen 39:12; Job 31:1; 1 Cor. 6:18; 2 Tim 2:22)
-  **Fulfill sexual desires lawfully**
- 5:15-19; 1 Cor 7:2-5
-  **Remember God sees** - 5:21-23; Heb 4:13; 13:4

The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those
Whose Live's Are Ruled By God - 5:17-
7:12

Adultery is SIN! - 5:27

*One can be guilty of adultery before
God without committing the act - 5:28*

Sin is serious - 5:29-30

*We must take radical steps to avoid
sin - 5:29-30*

The Sermon On The Mount

The Righteousness of Those
Whose Lives Are Ruled By God - 5:17-
7:12

**We will ALL stand
before God one day -**

*There is nothing - no sin - no
relationship - no pleasure - no desire
worth losing your soul for!!!!*

Sinners can repent & be forgiven!!



The Sermon On The Mount

Adultery In The Heart -

Charts by Don McClain

Prepared April 25-28, 2012

Preached April 29, 2012

West 65th Street church of Christ

P.O. Box 190062

Little Rock AR 72219

501-568-1062

Prepared using PPT 2010

Email - donmccclain@sbcglobal.net

More PPT & Audio Sermons:

<http://w65stchurchofchrist.org/donmaccla/2010SermonPage.html>

Note - Many of the transition effects used in this presentation may be lost using PPT 2007 Viewer

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=cb9bf144-1076-4615-9951-294eeb832823&displaylang=en>

Romans 13:8-14 (NKJV)

8 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. **9** For the commandments, “*You shall not commit adultery,*” “*You shall not murder,*” “*You shall not steal,*” “*You shall not bear false witness,*” “*You shall not covet,*” and if *there is* any other commandment, are *all* summed up in this saying, namely, “*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*”

Romans 13:8-14 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love *is* the fulfillment of the law. ¹¹ And *do* this, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation *is* nearer than when we *first* believed. ¹² The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

Romans 13:8-14 (NKJV)

¹³ Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts.