

You Have Heard it Said, But I Tell You! Sermon on the Mount Series

SUMMARY: Jesus is teaching about the HEART of the Law, which is much deeper than the letter of the Law. His teaching was in *preparation* for the New Covenant of Grace that Jesus introduced at the “Last Supper”, which was fulfilled through His Blood on a cross, followed by His death and resurrection and then initiated 50 days later, on the Day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came to live inside every believer, because the Holy Spirit is the one who produces TRANSFORMATION. These PRINCIPLES Jesus taught are HOW believers, saved by the GRACE of God, should seek to live out daily, in their Christian faith!

Here are some QUICK, ADDITIONAL Scriptures that will help us anchor the Difference between the OLD Covenant of LAW that Jesus totally fulfilled and the NEW Covenant of GRACE we live by....

LUKE 22:20 *And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.*

Heb. 9:15 *For this reason He (Jesus) is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance*

Galatians 4:4-5 *“But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, Jesus, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law”*

2Cor. 3:4 *Such confidence we have through Christ toward God. ⁵ Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, ⁶ who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.*

POINT: Both Jesus and His Jewish audience lived during the Old Covenant

Law.(DEATH) Jesus is teaching us to examine our hearts, to show us why obedience is a “Heart” issue and how God’s grace reshapes the heart.(LIFE)

PRINCIPLE: The Law demands perfection; GRACE produces transformation.

OUR TEXT FOR TODAY...

HERE'S OUR SECOND "YOU HAVE HEARD IT SAID" Lesson from Jesus

27 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery' (7th Commandment); 28 but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. That's right... You may have thought you are NOT guilty under the 10 Commandments or the Law if you have never committed ADULTERY, but Jesus teaches obedience to the Law was NOT just "physical" actions, but includes our HEART, our thoughts, our words, our motives, our "potential" future action and of course the deed itself.....

IN OTHER WORDS, WE ARE ALL LAWBREAKERS of the highest order if we were to be judged by the thoughts and intentions of our HEART!
Therefore, we deserve the wages of our sin, which is death before a perfect and holy God! Jesus is driving His audience to Himself as the Perfect Savior from sinful actions AND a sinful HEART!

The ONLY PERFECTLY RIGHTEOUS person to walk the face of this planet is JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD IN A HUMAN BODY!

APART FROM HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS THERE IS NO HOPE FOR OUR SIN!

SO JESUS PROPOSES A SOLUTION...

29 "If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

Unfortunately, the Blind can lust without eyes....**JESUS HYPERBOLE HERE!** ☺

30 "If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell.

Go ahead and try it if you like...cut out your eye and see if it keeps you from lust, or cut your hand off if you think it will help... This figure of speech Jesus is using to shock His audience on the gravity and consequence of sin was further explained by the apostle Paul in Rom. 6:23 "*The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord*"

POINT: Jesus just got our attention (AMEN?) Whatever we have to do to keep from going to hell, through the sin of Adultery, **DO IT!!!!** Fortunately for you and I, Jesus did it for us...He *proverbially* cut off His own hands and feet and tore out His own right eye, when He submitted to the torture of scourging and had His hands and feet pierced through, to a CROSS, all on account of OUR SIN!

PRINCIPLE: Do whatever is necessary to keep from sinning.....especially the sin of Adultery!

Here are **10 real ways to help prevent and overcome the sin of lust/adultery:**
WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER AND STRENGTH ☺

1. LIVE ABOVE REPROACH with “Radical Honesty”!

Adultery thrives in secrecy. Healing starts with confession—first to God (Psalm 32:3–5), then to a **safe, godly person** (James 5:16).

Darkness loses power when you call out and confess the sin to God. (1 Jn. 1:9)
You don't confess to be punished or judged; you confess to be freed.

2. Cut off access, not just intentions

Jesus’ language in Matthew 5 is strong for a reason. Don’t “manage” temptation—**remove its pathways.**

- Block numbers
- Delete apps
- Change routines
- Avoid certain places

Grace empowers decisive action.

3. Install accountability that actually costs you

Not vague “check-ins,” but **real access:**

- Phone transparency
- Location sharing
- Invite regular questions you don’t get to dodge

Accountability isn't mistrust; it's humility in motion.

4. Deal with lust before the potential “Act” of adultery

Adultery is the **fruit of lust unchecked!** The root is often:

- Loneliness
- Validation hunger
- Fantasy life
- Entitlement

Ask: What am I using this sin to medicate and take it seriously!

5. Renew the mind daily (not occasionally)

Romans 12:2 (*Do not be conformed to this world*) isn't poetic—it's strategic.

Replace lies like:

- “I deserve this”
- “No one will know”
- “This will satisfy me”

With truth:

- “Sin always overpromises and under delivers”
- “Whatever I feed grows”

Scripture, not shame, reshapes desire.

6. Run toward intimacy at home, not away from it

If married: pursue your spouse intentionally and *DON'T use sex as a weapon*

- Emotional presence
- Honest conversation
- Non-sexual affection
- Counseling if needed

Distance in marriage is not an excuse—but it is a warning light.

7. Flee from sexual input which will corrupt your mind!

Porn, suggestive media, social feeds—it all trains desire.

A reset helps the soul breathe again.

You're not weak for needing distance from garbage; you're wise.

8. Remember the *real* cost of adultery (not just the thrill)

Adultery always promises pleasure but delivers:

- Broken trust
- Wounded children
- Spiritual numbness
- Self-contempt

Don't fantasize about the moment—follow the story to the end.

9. Anchor your identity in grace, not failure

Shame says, "This is who you are."

Grace says, "This is what Christ came to heal."

You fight sin as a forgiven person, not to become one (Romans 8:1).

10. Fall forward, not away

If you stumble:

- Repent quickly
- Get back up immediately
- Don't disappear
- Don't double down

The enemy wants isolation. God invites restoration.

REMEMBER:

Without Jesus and His H/S we have NO HOPE of overcoming adultery!

Jesus now takes on Marriage and Divorce

Matt. 5:31 “It was said, ‘Whoever sends his wife away, Let Him Give her a certificate of divorce; ³² but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

SO MANY CONFLICTING VIEWS ON DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE,

1. NO Remarriage of any kind for any reason unless your spouse is dead
2. Remarriage is permissible anywhere, anytime, anyplace, because we are under grace and you can do “whatever you want”???
- 3. A BALANCED understanding of the totality of God’s Word, somewhere in the middle OFTEN RESOLVES GRACE AND TRUTH QUESTIONS....**

FIRST THESE POINTS ON DIVORCE ARE UNCONTESTABLE FROM THE BIBLE:

1. If you are still married to your first and only spouse PRAISE GOD!
2. If you are widowed and you have remarried a Believer, Praise God!
3. If you and your spouse were NOT believers...and your spouse has remarried, you are free to remarry due to their adultery and abandonment, however if you do remarry, you are obligated to marry another believer in the Lord
4. If you are widowed and choose NOT to remarry, Praise God!

REMEMBER: THIS LAW OF ADULTERY, AS IN ALL OF JESUS TEACHING IS A MATTER OF THE **HEART, WHICH GOD ALONE IS QUALIFIED TO JUDGE!**

1. The commitment you made to God in marriage was a covenant between you and your spouse BEFORE **GOD**...Therefore every believer has the obligation to FIGHT FOR THEIR MARRIAGE and never give up...
2. This means be careful to rush to an excuse for divorce, remembering that “God hates Divorce”! *If you seek to get out of a marriage*, because of physical abuse or emotional abuse...**Ask this question: What is God the Holy Spirit telling you?** NOT your friends who have been divorced MANY times before....If the Holy Spirit is telling you that the “Physical” or “Emotional” abuse is a matter of life and death to you or your children, then leaving the home may be necessary, but exhaust every other possibility “before” ever considering divorce
3. **My own opinion**.....I personally cannot conceive of God’s GRACE NOT covering A decision YOU make, as long as “*your*” HEART, The Word of God **AND** THE HOLY SPIRIT does NOT convict you.

4. **This I am SURE OF, because God's Word is clear**, No one has the right to judge another because we each will answer to God alone for the "Individual" choices we make in this life... **Rom. 14:10 But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.**
5. **The Apostle Paul's admonition in 1 Cor. 7** Is that any person divorced, widowed or single, if they are able, should stay that way so as to serve the Lord with 100% of your time, undivided or unencumbered by a spouse, unless they burn with passion for the opposite sex, in which case he says, "It is better they marry than burn with passion" ☺
6. **FINALLY KEEP THESE POINTS IN MIND....** **GRACE was extended by Jesus to the woman at the well** who had been married FIVE TIMES and the man she was living with was NOT her husband. **GRACE was extend by our Lord Jesus, when everyone else wanted to stone the woman caught in the very act of ADULTRY...**"Woman, where are your accusers, they are all gone, then neither do I condemn you, said the Lord, now GO AND SIN NO MORE!" ☺

COMMUNION ALTAR CALL...

I WAS CONVICTED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE NOT LIKE THE PHARISEE'S WHO THOUGHT THEY WERE SAVED, BY KEEPING THE LETTER OF THE LAW... *They read Scripture, They Fasted, They gave to the poor, They prayed all the time, They went to temple or Church at least weekly, just like many of you.....* **BUT THEY WERE "NOT" SAVED!!!!**

1. Salvation does NOT come through religion
2. Salvation does NOT come through being good or doing good
3. Salvation does NOT come by going to Church or being a leader in church
4. Salvation does NOT come by ascribing to a set of facts...or wearing a badge that you identify with (I'm a Christian)...any more than wearing a Chevy or Ford hat, sitting in a garage makes you A CAR ☺
- 5.

SALVATION COMES BY FAITH ALONE IN THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF JESUS WHICH IS NOT A HEAD DECISION, BUT "FAITH" or "BELIEF" MUST COME FROM THE HEART!....

STEVE BELIEVED (Mental Assent) UNTIL AGE 28, then Believed with HEART

The DEMONS Believe (KNOW FOR A FACT) and Tremble (James)

You have seen the difference between knowing the Law and hearing Jesus teach about the HEART of the Law... There IS a difference!

Rom. 10:5 For Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on law shall live by that righteousness.

⁶ **But the righteousness based on FAITH speaks as follows: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' (that is, to bring Christ down), ' or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' (that is, to bring Christ**

up from the dead). ”⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” — that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, ⁹ that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your HEART that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰ for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.....¹³ for “Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Do you have the courage to call on the LORD Jesus TODAY with your “HEART”, not just your mind, AND BELIEVE that God raised Jesus from the dead? IF SO REPEAT AFTER ME..... “LORD” JESUS SAVE ME A SINNER, BECAUSE I BELIEVE WITH MY “HEART”, GOD RAISED JESUS, FROM THE DEAD!