



The Sermon on the Mount

Matt. 5:27 “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘*You shall not commit adultery.*’

Matt. 5:28 But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Matt. 5:29 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.

Matt. 5:30 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.

Observations, interpretations & application

1. By Jesus' definition what constitutes adultery? Follow-up question—what's the difference between the **deed** of adultery and the **desire** to commit adultery?
2. Many people today would say that Jesus' view on sex is narrow minded; what makes Jesus an authority on human sexuality? Provide some scriptures to back up your thoughts.
3. Read Genesis 20:1-7 & 1Thess. 4:3-7: based upon your reading of these texts what would you say is God's attitude regarding sexual purity? Follow-up question—what's your reaction (thoughts & feelings) to how God views your sexual purity?
4. In verses 29-30 of our text it sounds like we should probably start scooping out eyeballs & cutting off hands tonight—after all according to Jesus' definition of adultery most of us are guilty! How do we know that Jesus wasn't speaking about literal mutilation?
5. If Jesus didn't mean that we are to literally scoop out our eyes & cut off our hands what did He mean?
6. Read 2Tim. 2:22: what are some practical ways that you can keep a pure heart and steer clear of sexual sin?