



KEEP YOUR HEART

EVER LOYAL

# God Wants to Rule His Children From The Inside Out

Lust, Divorce and Dishonesty

Matthew 5:27-37



Jesus digs beneath the surface to  
expose the corruption of the heart

- “You have heard it said...”
  - “Do not murder” Matthew 5:17
  - “Do not commit adultery” Matthew 5:27
  - “Do not break your oath” Matthew 5:33
  - “Eye for an eye” Matthew 5:38
  - “Love your neighbor, hate your enemy” Matthew 5:43

“But I say  
to you...”

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“You have heard that it was  
said, ‘YOU SHALL NOT  
COMMIT ADULTERY’;

**Matthew 5:27–30**

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.



“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.

“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.

# *Lust*

*Lust is a force all its own. It consumes the mind and body, and causes even the most loyal to indulge in its sinful ways.*

# Why Lust is Wrong (27-30)

- Treated commands superficially (Mark 7:21-23)

“For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries,

**Mark 7:21-23**

deeds of coveting *and* wickedness, *as well as* deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride *and* foolishness. “All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man.”

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- What did the Law actually say? (Lev. 20:10; Dt. 22:22)
  - 10th commandment-coveting occurs within the heart
  - Adultery is wrong because it violates the ONE flesh principle (Heb. 13:4)



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- What did the Law actually say? (Lev. 20:10; Dt. 22:22)
- Sex appeal in dress, **lust is a problem-for men**

But because of immoralities,  
each man is to have his own  
wife, and each woman is to  
have her own husband.

**1 Corinthians 7:2-5**

The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband.

The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband *does*; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife *does*.

Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

Beloved, I urge you as aliens  
and strangers to abstain from  
fleshly lusts which wage war  
against the soul.

**1 Peter 2:11**

“I have made a **covenant with my eyes**; How then could I gaze at a virgin?

**Job 31:1**



## Covenant:

- Make a daily decision
- Bounce your eyes
- Use your sword to shield you from the attack (Psalm 119:9)
- Pray
- Find an accountability partner

*Divorce*

“It was said, ‘WHOEVER SENDS HIS WIFE AWAY, LET HIM GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE’;

**Matthew 5:31-32**

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.

# The Problem with Divorce (31-32)

- Three scenarios
  - Man who divorces his wife without legitimate cause, makes her commit adultery

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  - Only immorality is grounds for divorce

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  - Man who divorces his wife without legitimate cause, makes her commit adultery
  - Only immorality is grounds for divorce
  - One who marries a wrongly divorced woman, becomes an adulterer

# The Problem with Divorce (31-32)

- Three truths...
  - Marriage is not over until God says it's over
  - There are innocent parties
  - Marriage is for keeps (Matthew 19:3-12)



*Dishonesty*

“Again, you have heard that the ancients were told, ‘YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FALSE VOWS, BUT SHALL FULFILL YOUR VOWS TO THE LORD.’

**Matthew 5:33–37**

“But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,

or by the earth, for it is the  
footstool of His feet, or by  
Jerusalem, for it is **THE CITY  
OF THE GREAT KING.**

“Nor shall you make an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. “But let your statement be, ‘Yes, yes’ or ‘No, no’; anything beyond these is of evil.

# The Problem with Dishonesty (33-37)

- Tell the truth/Integrity (Prov. 6:17; Eph. 4:25)

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- What did the Law say? (Dt. 6:13-15; 23:21-23; Lev. 19:11-12)
- Don't swear





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