

The Gospel of Matthew

“Kingdom Righteousness”
Matthew 5:27-30

Matthew 5:20

“For I say to you, that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

– Jesus

Matthew 5:21-48

“You have heard it said...but I say to you”

Matthew 5:27-30

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

But I say to you, that everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart.

And if your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out, and throw it from you; for it is better for you that one of the parts of your body perish, than your whole body be thrown into hell.

And if your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off, and throw it from you; for it is better for you that one of the parts of your body perish, than your whole body go into hell.

Adultery & Lust

1. The sin of adultery is committed first in the heart through lust

- “adultery in the heart” is as liable to God’s judgment as the outward act
- “lust” – the desire for and indulgence of illicit sexual activity in the imagination

Adultery & Lust

2. The necessity of taking every measure to put to death indwelling sin

- kingdom righteousness is displayed in our radical, persistent attack on our sin
- we are not passive in the fight against sin, but we must take radical, costly measures

Adultery & Lust

3. At stake in the battle against sin is heaven and hell

- if we forsake the battle for purity, we will perish
- the evidence of conversion/new heart is the ongoing mortification of sin (Rom. 8:9-13)

Adultery & Lust

Application

➤ *What does “tearing out the eye” and “cutting off the hand” look like for you?*

Adultery & Lust

Application

1. Establish real accountability
2. Construct “fences”
3. Consider the consequences
4. Cultivate your inner man