

Keep Your Heart Pure! (Matt. 5:21-30)

Series: Lessons from the Sermon on the Mount

➤ Intro:

- **Matt. 5:21-30**

- **rf. previous two lessons** from the Sermon on the Mount: Beatitudes, disciples are salt and light

- **this lesson:** sin in the heart — **not get into details how these relate to Mosaic Law and tradition**

➤ Sin with our physical members is a result of sin in our hearts (Matt. 5:21-24, 27-28)

- **Murder is a result of sin in one's heart**

- **Matt. 5:21-24** murder a result of sin in one's heart

- **illus.: David's heart and murder, on two occasions**

- **good heart and not murder:** David had numerous chances to kill King Saul and take the throne, for which He had already been anointed

- “Far be it from me because of the LORD that I should do this thing to my lord, the LORD'S anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, since he is the LORD'S anointed” (1 Sam. 24:6).

- **evil heart and murdered:** David had Uriah killed after couldn't get him to have relations with his wife, got him drunk, Joab put him on the front line of the fiercest battle and had the soldiers withdraw from him so that he would die in battle

- coverup his adultery with Bathseba who had become pregnant

➤ - **1 Jn. 3:15** a Christian who hates a brother is a murderer

- **evil heart of hatred is same evil heart of murderer** — **1 Jn. 3:16** love, lay down life

➤ - **Adultery is the result of sin in one's heart**

- **Matt. 5:27-28** adultery a result of sin in one's heart

- **if keep mind pure** regarding sexual relationships, not commit adultery

➤ - **Matt. 5:8** Beatitude: **pure heart** - mind upon heaven and spiritual things (rf. Col. 3:1-5)

➤ - **2 Tim. 2:22** must flee (run away for safety) **lust to be pure** in heart

- **one can sin in his heart** — **illus.: adultery in the heart**, even if not engage in physical sex

- **when sin in our minds, must repent** — **illus.: dream** of something sinful, repent and pray when wake

➤ - **Rev. 2:20-22** religious adultery is following the religious doctrines of men

➤ Remove the stumbling blocks from your life (Matt. 5:29-30)

- **Matt. 5:29-30** remove the things that cause your mind to focus on sin — **vs. 27 looks** on women (with eyes), not necessarily wrong to look unless with evil in heart — **looking out at women in audience**

- **Jesus not commanding us to be cannibals, but to remove stumbling blocks**

- **illus.: Between a Rock and a Really Hard Place** — attached

➤ - **Matt. 15:15-20** if sinning with physical members, must correct mind (heart) first — **repent**

➤ - **Ja. 1:13-15** control our mind (heart) not to lust, not sin with our bodies — **mind over body**

- **illus.: Paul**, as Christian could control himself, not so under law — **Rom. 7:14-25**

- **keep ourselves out of situations where may be difficult to control mind**

- licentious peers, movies, dances, etc.

- **How do we correct our minds, which in turn control our bodies?** — perhaps 2 most important things

➤ - **Eph. 4:17-21** learn Christ, truth

➤ - **1 Jn. 2:15-16** love God rather than world

- **1 Jn. 5:3** love of God, keep His commandments, not burdensome

➤ **Anyone who doesn't correct his life (repent, remove stumbling blocks), will be punished (Matt. 5:25-26)**

- **Matt. 5:25-26** judge will make you pay the last cent

- **physical realm:** reconcile men opponents before it goes to court, especially if you are in the wrong

- **spiritual realm:** reconcile self with God (sinners in wrong), before too late, will have to pay last cent in hell

➤ - **Phil. 2:12** work out your salvation with fear and trembling

- work out salvation, obey God and remove stumbling blocks, before judgment

- **2 Cor. 5:10** must appear before the judgment seat of Christ

- correct your life, purify your heart

- **Ja. 4:8** draw near to God, cleanse your hands, purify your hearts

➤ **Summary / Inv.**

- **Keep Your Heart Pure!** — flee lusts, pursue righteousness from a pure heart

- **1 Tim. 1:5** (result of God's word) love from a pure heart, good conscience, sincere faith

- **inv.:** — purify your heart in obedience to the gospel

- **Tit. 2:14** (Jesus) gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, purify for Himself a people for His own possession