



Sermon on the Mount

# Adultery

## Adultery

Welcome to Jesus Time where we spend time with Jesus in His time and culture.

Jesus continues with His Sermon on the Mount

✝ You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery. Matthew 5:27 NIV

Here Jesus is reminding everyone of the 7<sup>th</sup> of the Ten Commandments found within Exodus 20:14, that the Jewish people of Israel had been learning in Synagogue from their youth.

In "Jesus Time" within the Pagan Roman Empire sexual perversion was not a crime it was prevalent. At least if you were Roman or anyone with a Hellenistic meaning a Greek influenced worldview.

However, within this hedonistic environment as for the average Temple practicing Jew, to be caught within a sexual sin particularly adultery; this and they both the man and woman involved were each considered to be willingly self condemned within their Sin.

Meaning once caught the adulterant couple would now serve others as an example of not committing adultery as they were each to be publicly stoned to death by their very own community of peers.

In reality; the Jewish historian Josephus records that if someone was suspected of Adultery while not as of yet caught & charged publicly, then normally privately & quietly through someone the suspects would respect they would be sent an officially cold stark warning; "you are each suspect for stoning."

Meaning stop all infidelity now- or else.

With those being aggrieved due a divorce if they so desired having for them an uncontested legal & financial settlement or the offended partner could still demand a public trial even yet unto a stoning.

E.g. Remember Christ's human birth as in His Nativity story of when Mary became pregnant with Jesus. When our Lord was conceived by the Holy Spirit. Then it was Joseph, Jesus's human step-father who was originally disappointed and had intended to divorce Mary quietly. ( Matthew 1:19 )

Meaning Joseph decided not to seek any shameful public pronouncement of justice upon Mary which would have risked a stoning. This being before the Angel Gabriel had informed Joseph that Mary had not been unfaithful to him, and it was by GOD, that GOD Himself was The Holy Christ child she carried. ( aka Emmanuel = GOD with us, IE Deity encased within humanity )

So, the teachers of GOD'S Law in Israel knew the importance that GOD Himself places upon stable family units in order to produce pure undefiled bloodlines of GOD fearing reverent Jewish generations.

As such Jews are technically still required by GOD to keep themselves Holy, separate, and distinct as a people. ( 1 Kings 11:2, Deuteronomy 7:3-4, Ezra 10:1-44 & Nehemiah 13:23-31 -to name a few. )

Including very specific Biblical guidelines as too their mates also being members of the Jewish race.

If a Jew married a Gentile, any children for 10 generations would be considered profane. As in not Holy.

So much so that genealogical records were kept in every town and village as well as being copied and stored as a whole within the Temple of Jerusalem.

This is Why? When the future Roman Emperor Titus, the military commander of Judea, son of Vespasian, when he finally captured the Temple in 70 AD. Caesar's son and heir took special care as he dared to raze the Temple and knowingly blaze all of the Jewish birth and marriage records.

Of course as for the surviving Jews in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD/CE, no matter wherever they had fled they self continued century by century to keep track of who was and who was not Jewish. (using Matriarch lineage only)

But to say any particular familial blood line could literally be traced all the way back to Babylonian times until by the Diaspora of Roman dispersion this possibility was now unto the Jewish people forever lost.

So Jewish lineage was kept by families only marrying within other Jewish communities usually at a long distance or even between nations at purposely continuing at being Jewish generation by generation.

When a Jewish person was married it was considered to be a 3-person ceremony. The presence of the Lord was assumed with the couple and their vows exchanged to be Holy. Meaning Sanctified as in set apart for each other in a matrimonial bond being Consecrated as Sacred. Get that? Being caught in adultery was the breaking of one's union and promise with GOD Himself. So, this was Why? Adultery meant an automatic punitive Sin purging from the living Jewish race. Wedded Jews were expected to live by higher standards because of their voluntary vows unto GOD. Adultery, as in a broken promises of chastity meant the loss of a state of Grace before GOD in Temple. Also not knowing an affair partner was married & under a GODLY matrimonial vow was disallowed meaning no alibi as in no one was able to deny their guilt by the claiming of ignorance as innocence. Because it was GOD'S trust that had been violated and a reckoning of recompense was due. Making the ever onus of sexual responsibility was placed totally upon each person individually.

Continuing

✝ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Matthew 5:28 NIV

Here Jesus states plainly that we are not to entertain and continue with lustful thoughts, urges, desires, and attitudes for they lead into Sin.

Jesus is now addressing the root cause of marital unfaithfulness and in the original Greek our Lords Words are implying that a continual longing gaze at someone who is not our spouse is actually a wrong committed unto the one we have pledged our martial vows of faithfulness.

Yes, to purposely and willingly as in the continued desirable leering of another is a violation of the intent and the spirit of a marriage vow. How do we know? Because Jesus just said so.

This necessarily includes not just our personal interactions, but also entertainment and movies, social media interactions, even romantic books and of course especially outright pornography.

Because:

The human desire for love and attention is very strong particularly amongst those with an exaggerated sex drive. By longing for another than one's significant other this can become an obsession that gets ever more difficult to resist.

Couple this with a couple in conflict be it emotional trouble or an intellectual divide and this becomes a recipe for misconduct.

Even a concealed secret affair does in fact negatively affect the family unit.

This means that at least one of the married partners lives in GOD'S sight a life of shame with continual deceit and betrayal within their daily lives.

Of course, the affections and attitudes within such a marriage will obviously suffer.

As in even if a husband or wife is unaware of their spouse's affair, they are still being denied the attention their partner is giving to another that is rightfully theirs.

Meaning the time and energy expended in deception could have been better used at enhancing affection within their own home upon whatever the underlying issues of their straying may be.

Once discovered even if a marriage recovers from adultery & many do not- the innocence, trust, and forever bonding from the aggrieved marriage partner will be tarnished and forever more may be guarded and restrained with empathy and compassion for their partner possibly diminished.

For the aggrieved partner the flower of their affection will often never bloom as bright as it once did or may take many years to just recover to where they were before sexual misconduct losing the growth of a trusting loving relationship they would have experienced during this time span.

Remember anything worthwhile takes awhile to build up and get right especially our relationships.

Adultery weakens an individual morally, ethically, & intellectually while physically adultery exposes a person to health risks of STD'S. Which weakens a family by which in turn weakens society as a whole and ultimately weakens and destroys a nation.

Especially a pure blood line people such as Israel!

continuing

✝ If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup> And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

Matthew 5:29-30 NIV

Jesus explains we should eliminate the situation or circumstances that are leading to a possible Sin. Even when removing ourselves from a perceived temptation costs us position, comfort, or prestige. Christ is saying that we should all be wary and careful of our hearts desire and our minds thoughts. Just as it was in pagan culture it is once again for us today of when everywhere you go everywhere you look, we are saturated with sexual images & endless sensual innuendo.

Be it movies, TV, music, or social media.

Flesh is continuously peddled as desirable, envious, and painless even unto outright pornography. The enticement of immorality is used within most advertising or entertainment because sex sells.

The entertainment industry as a whole uses whatever illicit means they can to get you to notice their product and purchase whatever it is they are selling.

Simultaneously even if unwittingly we are in fact supporting the degradation of our morals and values whenever we buy whatever it is that is being sold by lewdness of crudeness.

Be it financially or intellectually it is an uncomfortable fact that most products or services being peddling are quite often presented to our lowest sinful nature.

No matter how low they have to go. ( They are those who are not GODLY nor supportive of Biblical morality )

Biblical martial instruction

✝ Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

Hebrews 13:4 NIV

Ok, now as for our single friends as in the quick non-committal "Hook up" culture.

Unfortunately for some our society has discarded committal unto a series of quick mindless pleasures with built in short cuts of convenience now being used as an excuse from attaining or even attempting any deeper meaningful relationships.

Meaning the easing of having to work on ourselves each mentally and emotionally also means we have a built-in excuse of ignoring perceived emotional trauma or a perceived lacking in someone else we might choose to "be" with that we would otherwise avoid. This be for the sake of a quick deserving lustful pleasure, as in "I'll get what I want and then quickly walk away" this trend does now rule our days and am afraid also our nights. How? Can respect & Love be earned when none is given.

By Hooking up the hassle or disappointments of having to be patient while attempting to build a meaningful relationship with accountability and responsibilities are totally avoided.

While this never even considers the fact that in this sexual disease perversion obsessed culture- one may have no clue as to where and with who their intended hook-up partner has been. ( STD )

Also, we have seen if someone lies to another to gain sexual favor if they are married GOD still holds the one lied too as guilty of Adultery. The greater guilt may be on the liar but the other is as guilty.

Which brings us to our final issue; an all together different offense unto GOD and Biblical marriage this being the adulterant issue of the ancient Pagan practice of open permissible marriages.

Even when one spouse or even both allow this foolish practice of seeking short term fulfillment outside of their marriage this does in fact by example because someone is always in the know, this does weaken society as whole and the GOD given institution of marriage.

Is it even necessary to say that an open marriages is a Sinful violation of GOD'S Law? Why? Would or should such a couple agree to marry in the first place.

Jesus knew as He taught to the Jews :

That without Biblical morality within marital stability meaning sound social values with GODLY morality it is impossible to pass on these said values from generation to generation.

Please remember these facts for when later in our studies of the life of our Christ.

When the Pharisee's present before Jesus a woman caught in the very act of adultery and then they demand it is Jesus who pronounces legal justice (stoning) upon her.

We will save that topic for when we arrive at that specific Jesus Time.

But now you know Why? Each the male and female adulterants were to be stoned because of Israels higher Biblical morality standards.

Even more so than physical Adultery is their guilty of breaking their voluntary life blood oath vow that at least one of them- the adulterants, had previously made unto Holy Jehovah GOD.