LUST
MATTHEW 5:27-32

Text: Matthew 5:28

Matthew 5:28
28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

Introduction:

In our politically correct, none offending society—sin is a word that is not to be used very often. At times in our enlightened society sin is ignored, dismissed, overlooked, excused or even denied.

When we talk about lust, we are talking about anything that feeds evil desires.

Statistics tell us that 1 in 4 Christians has committed adultery, and 1 in 10 pastors have committed adultery.

We face temptation every day. People who really want to follow the Lord must deal with the temptation of lust.

In verse 27 the Lord repeats with the wrong thought process of the crowd: You have heard…. And in verse 28 He states but I say.

Pharisees taught that the action of adultery was sin. The Lord taught sin begins in the heart.

It was lust in the heart that would cause the eye to continue to look and sin.

1. PRINCIPLE – LOOK, LUST, ADULTERY

Matthew 5:27-28
27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: **28** But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

2. PROPAGATION – EYE, HAND

Again we see how things build upon each other, unforgiveness often leads or dives people into looking, and lusting, and too often result in divorce.

The eye is a gateway that often leads the hands to do things which outside of marriage is wrong.

The Lord was not literally telling the listeners to puck out their eye and cut off their hand.

He was certainly stating the seriousness of lust.

Notice:

Matthew 18:7-9
[7] Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh! [8] Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast *them* from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire. [9] And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast *it* from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

The "eye" and the "hand" represent offenses. Offenses are stumbling blocks that cause a person to sin. The Greek word used for "offend" in the Sermon on the Mount means "to entrap, i.e. trip up or entice to sin."

3. PATTERN – DAVID & BATHSHEBA (READ 2 SAMUEL 11)

    A. David lingered – Stayed behind instead of going with his men

    B. David looked
    C. David lusted

I remind you that this was the man that the Bible says was a man after God's own heart. Simply put it can happen to anyone.

- Lust is deceitful

- Lust will disarming us and our ability to be rational

- Lust hinders discernment

- Lust devalues people

- Lust will cause the guilty employ deceptive schemes

Note:

- This sin took David farther than he ever wanted to go

- This sin kept David far longer than he wanted to stay

- This sin cost David far more than he wanted to pay

Sin will do the same to us.

4. PRODUCT – LUST, SIN, DEATH (JAMES 1:15)

James 1:15
15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

The products are always the same.

Lust when conceived brings forth sin, and sin when finished brings death.

Note – The Death as a result of David and Bathsheba

- Uriah Died

See 2 Samuel 12:1-6

2 Samuel 12:1-6
1 And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. **2** The rich *man* had exceeding many flocks and herds: **3** But the poor *man* had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. **4** And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him. **5** And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, *As* the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this *thing* shall surely die: **6** And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.

2 Samuel 12:10
10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.

- The Baby Died

- Amnon (2 Samuel 13)

- Absalom (2 Samuel 18:15)

Close:

1. What are we to do?

The first step in the process is coming to the realization, as Paul did, that there is nothing inherently good about us. Everything about our natural state is depraved, perverted, and sinful.

Romans 7:18
18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.

2. Don't have great confidence in yourself

Galatians 5:17
17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

There is a battle going on inside us every day between the spirit and the flesh. There will not be one moment of peace until we are taken out of this life and are ushered into the presence of the Lord Himself. As long as we possess these sin cursed, fleshly bodies, we will battle with the flesh.

Romans 13:14
14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to *fulfil* the lusts *thereof*.

1 Peter 2:11
11 Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

3. Know that the strongest nature will most often win, and the strongest nature is the one that we feed the most.

May God help us recognize this danger, and may we understand that even the best of men; Men after God's own heart; can fall victim to lust.