

T H E T E N

COMMANDMENTS THROUGH THE EYES OF JESUS

SERMON NOTES

Week 7 October 1, 2023

“Do Not Commit Adultery; Be Faithful in Marriage”

Exodus 20:14; Leviticus 20:10; Deuteronomy 22:22; John 8:7-11; Mark 10:7-9; Colossians 3:12-15; Matthew 5:27-29; John 1:14-15; 2 Samuel 11:4; James 4:7

I. Introduction

- A. The seventh commandment: “Do not commit _____.”
- B. Approximately 25% of married men and 15% of married women have had or will have extramarital _____ in their marriages.

II. Adultery in Ancient Israel

- A. In ancient Israel, adultery was framed as a sin committed against a married _____ by his wife and another man.
- B. Jesus extends forgiveness to everyone but he acknowledges that the adultery was a _____ in need of repentance.

III. Faithfulness in Marriage

- A. The heart of the 7th commandment is much broader than what happens in the bedroom with another person. It’s a call to be _____ in marriage.
- B. The Bible helps us understand the _____ of marriage:
 - a. Marriage is a calling from God where two people care for, bless, and serve one another.
 - b. Marriage is a gift from God to meet the fundamental need of companionship.
 - c. Marriage unites two people as one and they become a new creation.
- C. Love is a _____, not an emotion.

IV. Dealing With Temptation

- A. Jesus says that adultery includes not only the act of intercourse with a woman who is not one’s wife but also the _____ behind the act.
- B. The story of King David’s infidelity is a reminder to us all that _____ is capable of this.
- C. the 5 R’s of resisting _____:
 - Remember who you are.
 - Recognize the consequences of the action.
 - Rededicate yourself to God.
 - Reveal your struggle to a trusted friend.
 - Remove yourself from the tempting situation.
- D. If your life has been impacted by an extramarital affair, you need to know that there is _____ in Jesus.

ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE October 2-7, 2023

INTRODUCTION

In ancient Israel, the seventh commandment - “do not commit adultery” - was framed as a sin against a married man committed by his wife and another man. However, Jesus came along and broadened the meaning of this commandment and we find that it means more than sleeping with someone who is not your spouse. So what does this commandment mean for us today?

Monday: Psalm 89:1-5 (The source of faithful love)

In Psalm 89:14, ‘hesed’ is described as one of the basic foundations of God’s rule in the universe: “Your throne is built on righteousness and justice; loyal love and faithfulness stand in front of you” (cf. also Psalm 33:5). How easy or hard do you find it to trust in God’s faithful love when life brings disappointment or pain? Even in human relationships, do you find value in “I’m with you” even in a situation which the other person cannot “fix”?

Tuesday: Exodus 20:14, Proverbs 6:23-32 (A narrow concept of adultery)

Leviticus 20:10 also defined adultery only as something a man did with a “married woman.” It said adultery was one of the actions for which ancient Israel executed people. So they enforced the seventh commandment in a way that showed how they limited the application of the sixth commandment. The Proverbs passage we read today didn’t mention execution. What light does that cast on how God’s people’s sense of the right way to deal with those who didn’t keep the commandments shifted over time?

Wednesday: Jeremiah 3:6-9, 20; Ezekiel 23:36-37 (Spiritual faithlessness and adultery)

The prophets often voiced God’s calls to wayward Israel in the pained tones of a deserted spouse. Jeremiah’s phrase about Israel “committing adultery with stone and tree” (elements of pagan shrines) was particularly striking. How did the prophets’ repeated use of “adultery” as a way to describe Israel’s spiritual abandonment of God point to the reality that the seventh commandment was about more than just getting caught having sex in the wrong bed?

Thursday: Matthew 5:27-30 (Adultery’s roots in mind and heart)

Jesus said a person’s heart can be faithless to a spouse’s needs, even without any overt act. How might it be possible to commit that kind of “adultery” with your career, a favorite hobby or even your children if you gave them a higher priority than loving your spouse? How might a deep commitment to be faithful to your spouse call for changes in you at the heart level?

Friday: Ephesians 5:21-30 (Self-giving love like Christ’s)

In places like today’s passage, the New Testament made one big shift from the standard way of looking at relationships: it spoke to both sides of the relationship. So Ephesians 5:21 said, “Submit to each other.” It was about mutuality, not something only one party gave while the other took. When and how have you seen mutual “submission” work in healthy marriages?

MOVING FORWARD

Jesus says that adultery includes not only the act of intercourse with a woman who is not one’s wife, but also the desire behind the act. Jesus knows that our desires can lead us to commit the act of adultery. In order to resist temptation, we need to focus on the five R’s:

Remember who you are. || Recognize the consequences of the action. || Rededicate yourself to God.

Reveal your struggle to a trusted friend. || Remove yourself from the tempting situation.

This commandment is also a call to be faithful in marriage. The way we are faithful in our marriage is by loving others the way that Christ loves us.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) adultery, B) affairs. IIA) man, B) sin. IIIA) faithful, IIB) meaning, C) decision. IVA) desire, B) anyone, C) temptation, D) hope.