

WHO IS AN ADULTERER?
(Matthew 5:27-32)

- I. The CRIME of Adultery (5:27)
 - A. Expressly forbidden in the LAW (Ex. 20:14)
 - 1. Involves SEXUAL immorality
 - 2. Includes OATH-BREAKING
 - 3. Includes THEFT
 - 4. Includes COVETING
 - B. Expressly forbidden in the NEW TESTAMENT (1 Cor. 6:9-10; Heb. 13:4)

- II. The MOTIVATION of Adultery (5:28)
 - A. Foundationally a sin of the HEART
 - 1. Adultery includes GAZING with adulterous LONGING
 - 2. Adultery is ROOTED in a LUSTFUL HEART
 - B. SOCIAL environment CONTRIBUTES
 - 1. TEMPTATIONS are EVERYWHERE
 - 2. PERVERSIONS are PROMOTED
 - 3. PURITY is SCORNED

- C. Both MEN and WOMEN can be GUILTY
 - 1. MEN are frequently HYPOCRITICAL
 - 2. WOMEN are frequently SEDUCTIVE
 - 3. The adultery is implied to be MUTUAL
- D. Therefore, there is NO ONE who is NOT an adulterer

III. The DELIVERANCE from Adultery (5:29-30)

- A. Taken literally, calls for self-MUTILATION to PREVENT temptation
 - 1. TEARING OUT an offending EYE
 - 2. CUTTING OFF an offending HAND
- B. Taken figuratively, calls for dramatic SEVERING of SINFUL impulses

IV. An EXAMPLE of Adultery (5:31-32)

- A. Divorce may make remarriage LEGAL
- B. But the remarriage constitutes an ADULTEROUS relationship
- C. The PENALTY for adultery is HELL
 - 1. Demonstrates the IMPOSSIBILITY of PERFECT righteousness
 - 2. Demands the GIFT of God's GRACE in CHRIST