

Lesson 20 – The 6th Commandment

You shall not commit adultery.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

(Exodus 20:14; Deuteronomy 5:18)

The most obvious understanding of this commandment is concerning intimacy outside of marriage.

Some things are right, and some things are wrong.

How do we know what God defines as right and wrong? _____

Let's look at what the Bible says.

Titus 2:11-12 – If we want what God says we should not have, what should we do?

Matthew 15:16-20 – What makes people unclean (or bad) in God's eyes?

Hebrews 13:4 – How does God hold marriage? _____

Read

Genesis 2:22-24 – When a man and woman get married, God sees them as one. Marriage is more than just a contract between two people who start living together. There is also a spiritual and holy side to marriage that people outside the Church often fail to recognize.

We respect God when we obey what God commands, and by showing respect to each other. This commandment is mostly about respect. Respect for each other, respect for ourselves, and respect for God's will and God's design. It is about understanding that God has good reasons for what He tell us to do and not to do. He knows what is good for us because He designed and created us.

1 Corinthians 6:15-19 – Are these kinds of sins serious? _____

Ephesians 5:3-5 What does this verse say about how we should act before others?

In the following verses, how does God define marriage?

Genesis 1:27-28 _____

Mark 10:6-9 _____

1 Corinthians 7:2-4 _____

If this commandment is about respect that means that men should respect women and not ask women to do things that are wrong in God's eyes. In the same way women should respect men and not ask men to do things that are wrong in God's eyes. Men and women should respect each other, as they respect God, and God's commands. There are some things that should not be done outside of marriage. Saving yourself for marriage is one of the greatest gifts you have to give your spouse.

Genesis 39:1-10 – How should we act? Should we do what God says, or what we and other want?

The most obvious understanding of this commandment is concerning intimacy outside of marriage, but can other sins be classified as “adultery?”

The Bible often uses the term adultery as an example of lust for sin. Ezekiel 23 is one of the most obvious places. As you read these words verse 4 explains the two sisters: Oholah is Samaria (Capitol of the Northern Kingdom of Israel), and Oholibah is Jerusalem (Capitol of the Southern Kingdom of Israel).

The language here in Ezekiel is very direct and even a bit graphic. (The actual Hebrew is actually a bit more so.) Here God, through Ezekiel, is showing just how disgusting the nation is acting, committing adultery in their passion and lust for sin. The people (the sisters) were enticed by power and authority over others. They were attracted to those things they thought would give them status. They were willing to set aside their integrity and personal reputation for perceived treasures.

Those treasures turned out to be slavery and destruction.

What are some sins for which people “lust?”

(Examples might be: The feeling from drugs or alcohol
 The acquisition of things
 A position or title

Which sin in the Bible is condemned most often? The answer is idolatry.
What comes in second?

Why is that sin so often condemned by God? _____

(From AoR)

Can we lust for other things?

Is a “lust” for dirt or gossip adulterating ourselves before God?

Controlling our tongue is not simply one small detail among many minor matters in living a God-pleasing life. It is the key to controlling the whole self. It is important to control the tongue, not only to avoid hurting other people emotionally, physically and spiritually, but also because an uncontrolled tongue can turn on the uncontrolled talker, corrupting the whole person, poisoning their mind and actions. We should respect the mighty power of the words we speak.

What are your thoughts on each of these statements?

“Sticks and _____ may break your _____ but _____ will never _____ you.”

“Talk is _____.”

“Why can’t I say it, after all it’s the _____.”

Some might say, “I’m not gossiping.” Sometimes we defend or justify our words claiming we’re not gossiping but simply airing our complaints.

What does James 3:5-12 say about our speech? _____

A short list of verses in the Bible on gossip:

Proverbs 20:19

Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets; therefore do not associate with a simple babblers.

James 1:26

If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.

Philippians 4:8-9

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise,

think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Ephesians 4:29

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Proverbs 16:28

A dishonest man spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends.

Proverbs 11:13

Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets, but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered.

Exodus 20:16

“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

James 1:19-20

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Ephesians 5:1-7

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

Ephesians 4:31-32

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Luke 6:31

And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

Colossians 3:5-10

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ...

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Galatians 6:1-3

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

Matthew 12:36

I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak,

Matthew 7:12

So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Psalms 37:35-40

I have seen a wicked, ruthless man, spreading himself like a green laurel tree. But he passed away, and behold, he was no more; though I sought him, he could not be found. Mark the blameless and behold the upright, for there is a future for the man of peace. But transgressors shall be altogether destroyed; the future of the wicked shall be cut off. The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

Leviticus 19:16

You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

James 1:22-27

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.

1 Timothy 5:13

Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not.

Romans 13:8-10

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Luke 18:9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated

others with contempt: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ...

Isaiah 33:14-16

The sinners in Zion are afraid; trembling has seized the godless: “Who among us can dwell with the consuming fire? Who among us can dwell with everlasting burnings?” He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, who despises the gain of oppressions, who shakes his hands, lest they hold a bribe, who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking on evil, he will dwell on the heights; his place of defense will be the fortresses of rocks; his bread will be given him; his water will be sure.

Psalms 50:19-23

You give your mouth free rein for evil, and your tongue frames deceit. You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother's son. These things you have done, and I have been silent; you thought that I was one like yourself. But now I rebuke you and lay the charge before you. “Mark this, then, you who forget God, lest I tear you apart, and there be none to deliver! The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me; to one who orders his way rightly I will show the salvation of God!”

James 4:11-12

Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

James 4:1

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you?

Colossians 3:7-8

In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.

Philippians 2:2-8

Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,

Galatians 6:7-8

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one

who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Galatians 5:16-26

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions,

Romans 1:29

They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips,

Ezekiel 22:9

There are men in you who slander to shed blood, and people in you who eat on the mountains; they commit lewdness in your midst.

Proverbs 24:28

Be not a witness against your neighbor without cause, and do not deceive with your lips.

Proverbs 19:1

Better is a poor person who walks in his integrity than one who is crooked in speech and is a fool.

Proverbs 18:8

The words of a gossip are like delicious morsels; they go down into the inner parts of the body.

James 4:11

Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

Ephesians 4:25

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

Romans 15:1-2

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.

Luke 6:38

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

Mark 7:21-23

Jesus said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.

Matthew 15:18-19

But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

Matthew 15:7-9

You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”

Matthew 7:21-23

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

Micah 3:11-12

Its heads give judgment for a bribe; its priests teach for a price; its prophets practice divination for money; yet they lean on the Lord and say, “Is not the Lord in the midst of us? No disaster shall come upon us.” Therefore because of you Zion shall be plowed as a field; Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins, and the mountain of the house a wooded height.

Jeremiah 7:1-11

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: “Stand in the gate of the Lord's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the Lord, all you men of Judah who enter these gates to worship the Lord. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your deeds, and I will let you dwell in this place. Do not trust in these deceptive words: ‘This is the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord.’ “For if you truly amend your ways and your deeds, if you truly execute justice one with another, ...

Isaiah 33:15-16

He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, who despises the gain of oppressions, who shakes his hands, lest they hold a bribe, who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking on evil, he will dwell on the heights; his place of defense will be the fortresses of rocks; his bread will be given him; his water will be sure.

Isaiah 29:13-15

And the Lord said: “Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden.” Ah, you who hide deep from the Lord your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, “Who sees us? Who knows us?”