

# SERMON ON THE MOUNT

## Jesus and “Window Shopping” *Matthew 5:27-28*

Would you like to live life guilt-free, peaceful and joyful?

**Apostle Paul (Romans 7):**

**Pharisees / Scribes:**

Here again we have our Lord’s teaching regarding the nature of sin.  
Jesus Christ is dealing with the unpopular doctrine of sin!

**Why did Jesus die upon the cross?**  
**It is the problem of sin!**

**If you don’t start with sin, who needs salvation?**

**Regeneration:**

**Evangelism:**

One who sees his guilt in this way flies to Jesus for deliverance!  
Where are you this morning? Self satisfied, or seeking His holiness?  
**The doctrine of sin leads us to the absolute need of a power  
greater than ourselves to deliver us. Run to and rely on Christ!**

# The Letter of The Law

## SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

*“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’” Matthew 5:27*

- The Pharisees and scribes were always guilty of **REDUCING** the meaning and even the demand of the law.
- How? **LETTER** not spirit. They reduced the Seventh Commandment to a question of committing actual adultery.
- As long as one didn’t actually commit adultery, all was OK, and could face the commandment, “You shall not commit adultery” with the attitude, “I have fulfilled the law” but never examined their heart.
- Self satisfaction and smugness are the very antithesis of the New Testament doctrine of **HOLINESS**.
- It’s a matter of the heart, not simply conduct.

# The Spirit of The Law

## JESUS CONTRADICTS TEACHING OF SCRIBES AND PHARISEES

*“But I say to you...” Matthew 5:28a*

- Are you looking to **ESCAPE** or to **OBEY**?
- They have simply and very conveniently **REDUCED** it within the bounds and measures designed to render them perfectly happy.

## THE DEPTH AND POWER OF SIN: ADULTERY IS IN THE HEART

*“...that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” Matthew 5:28*

- Idolatry of the heart: when I **“LIKE”** becomes I **“MUST”** (James 1:14-15).
- Sin is not merely a matter of **ACTIONS**, but is conceived within the heart. Sins are nothing but the symptoms of a disease called sin, and it is not the symptoms that matter but the disease, for it is the disease that kills and not the symptoms.
- Sin must be understood as a **TERRIBLE POWER**. It's not so much that I do a thing, it's what makes me do it that matters.

## THE QUESTION YOU'VE GOT TO ANSWER IS: “HOW DO I VIEW GOD?”

- We need to **BEGIN** with a proper view of God and a proper view of us: His holiness, and our utter depravity (sinfulness)!
- Your view of God is directly **REFLECTED** in your view of your sin!

# Doing Deliberate Discipleship

## 1. The Subtlety of Sin

- **AROUSAL** precedes expression. Sin is in the heart, all else is but the expression.

## 2. The Perverting Nature and Effect of Sin

- The very fact that the law tells me not to do a thing makes me **THINK** of that thing.
- There is that within us that causes us to sin, the law is right and pure, the trouble is in us and our perverted **NATURES**.

## 3. Sin is Destructive

- God forbid that any of us should be able to look at this holy law of God and feel satisfied.
- **Listen to the words of Jesus Christ, and examine ourselves.**
- Examine our thoughts, our desires, and our imaginations.
- Unless we feel that we are vile, foul, and need to be washed and cleansed, unless we feel utterly helpless with a terrible poverty of spirit, unless we are hungering and thirsting after righteousness, God have mercy on us.

## *Thankful?*

I am utterly thankful I have a Gospel which tells me that *Another* who is spotless, pure, and holy has taken my sin and my guilt upon Himself. I am washed in His blood, He has given me His nature, He has written my name in the *Lambs Book of Life*.