



Eliminate Stumbling Blocks To Sin

"... whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matthew 5:28).

"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. 29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. 30 And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell" (Matthew 5:27-30).

You have probably heard the phrase that the heart of the problem is the problem of the heart. Jesus, in this message points out that the sin of adultery is a problem of the heart. Overcoming it therefore begins with dealing with the problem of the heart. Life is so short that we need to live it purposefully, focusing on the things that matter most and avoiding stumbling blocks that derails from the path. We will spare ourselves from much sorrow and pain, if we heed Jesus' admonition to pluck out the offending eye and cut off the right hand that offends.

The following scriptures highlight the dangers from the offending "eye" and "right hand":

1) "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat" (Genesis 3:6 6). Sin came into the world because Eve "Saw". She looked on what she say and it became "pleasant to the eyes". Combining these with listening to the serpent, her mind was influenced to believe that it is "a tree to be desired to make one wise". What more was left than a fall from grace? Note the steps from the highlights.

2) Samson was filled with the Holy Spirit right

"And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell" (Matthew 5:29).

from the mother's womb. The first recorded statement of this deliverer of Israel is "I have seen a woman"; and that spelt his doom!. "And Samson went down to Timnath, and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines. 2 And he came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife. 3 ... Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well" (Judges 14:1-3).

3) The consequences of David's failure to pluck out the offending eye, plagued him all the remaining days of his life. "And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. 3 And David sent and enquired after the woman" (2 Samuel 11: 2-3).

The solution?

- 1) 1 Timothy 5:22 "... keep thyself pure".
- 2) Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.
- 3) Job 31:1 "I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?" This was part of the secret to his healing, deliverance and restoration.
- 4) Titus 1:15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled

May God keep us pure and overcoming all the days of our lives in Jesus Name, Amen.

VCM-SOTM16

10 January 2018