



“SANE SEXUALITY”

Series: “LIVING FROM THE INSIDE OUT”, Part 4 of 19

Sunday, July 23, 2023, at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Text: Matthew 5:27-30

Big Idea: When we learn to live by God’s guidelines for sexuality it brings both appropriate delight and appropriate discipline.

Matthew 5:27-30, “You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.”

I. WHAT JESUS IS NOT FORBIDDING.

Jesus is not forbidding the joyful, meaningful, and free expression of sexual intimacy between a man and woman in marriage.

Genesis 1:28a, “God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number.”

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II. WHAT IS JESUS PROHIBITING?

Matthew 5:28, “But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

Hebrews 13:4, “Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.” {NASV}

Mark 7:21-23, “For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man ‘unclean.’”

Lust is looking at a person or image for the purpose of intentionally stimulating desire.

III. WHAT DOES JESUS MEAN BY PLUCKING OUT EYES AND CUTTING OFF HANDS?

Matthew 5:29-30, “If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.”

Matthew 18:8, “If your hand or your foot causes you to sin cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire.”

“Deal with it drastically. Do whatever you need to do to keep that from being a stumbling block in your life.”