

*"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'yes' in Christ. And so through Him the 'amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God" (2 Cor 1:20).*

*D.A. Carson Quote "Jesus came not to abolish the Old Testament, but to fulfill it - fulfill it in the sense that He Himself was the object toward which it pointed... Jesus doesn't conceive of His life and ministry in terms of opposition to the Old Testament, but in terms of bringing to fruition that toward which it points. Thus, the law and the prophets, far from being abolished, find their valid continuity in terms of their outworking in Jesus."*

*John Stott Quote "The Old Testament contains, for example, doctrinal teaching, instruction about God and humanity and salvation. All the great biblical doctrines are there, but it was only a partial revelation. Jesus fulfilled it all in the sense of bringing it to completion by His person, His teaching, and His work... Jesus' purpose was not to change the law, but to reveal the full depth of meaning God intended the law to have."*

**Matthew 5:21-26 (Old NIV)**

**21 "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' 22 But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, 'Raca,' is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.**

**23 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.**

**25 "Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. 26 Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.**

*Matthew 23:25-26 "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean."*

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- **Matthew 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."**

***Ephesians 2:1-10 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."***

***Galatians 5:1, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."***

***Matthew 5:23-24 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."***

***27 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to stumble, 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. 30 And if your right hand causes you to stumble, 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."***

***John Stott Quote: "Once again the religious teachers of Jesus' day were attempting to limit the scope of God's commandment that said, "You shall not commit adultery." In their view they and their followers kept the seventh commandment if they avoided the act of adultery. But Jesus taught differently. He affirmed that the true meaning of God's command was much wider and deeper than a simple prohibition of acts of sexual sin. Just as the prohibition of murder included hateful thoughts and insulting words, the prohibition of adultery included lustful looks and a sex-driven imagination. We can commit murder with our words; we can commit adultery in our hearts."***

Kent Hughes Quote: *"Mental infidelity leaves one completely guilty. Few male and female believers have not crossed the line from attraction to lust at some time. We are all adulterers by this standard. The great eighteenth-century commentator Albert Bengel knew this well and wrote, "Thus God looks upon the heart, in which, alas! what is not committed?"<sup>4</sup> The realization of this ought to deliver us from all judgmentalism and pious condescension toward those who have fallen to adultery. And it should instill within us a poverty of spirit and a humility that realizes we are spiritually bankrupt and makes us amazed that God loves us as he does."*

Matthew 5:29-30, **"29 If your right eye causes you to stumble, 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. 30 And if your right hand causes you to stumble, 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."**

Small Group Questions:

- Why do you think Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said" before He talked about anger? Why is this important?
- How had the Pharisees and the teachers of the law gotten the interpretation of the law wrong for so long? What was their focus? Do you think we struggle in this way currently? How?
- Have you had deep rooted anger toward someone before? Have you spoken words of contempt towards others? Why do you think Jesus speaks so strongly against this?
- Have you ever had someone who was holding onto anger towards you, and they finally told you? How did it feel when you knew they waited so long to confront you? Do you wish they would've come to you sooner? Why?
- How does Jesus tell us to handle anger as kingdom minded people?
- Have you seen Jesus do a work in your heart on the issue of anger? Has He done a work in your family on this issue?
- Do you think lust is a big problem in modernity?
- Why do you think "sex sells"?
- What did Jesus mean by looking at someone "lustfully"?
- Why should our lives look different than our culture when it comes to lust?
- What do you think Jesus means by gouging out your eye or cutting off your hand if it causes you to stumble?
- What are some practical steps you can or have taken to gouge out your eye or cut off your hand?
- Why should this section of Scripture be an encouragement to us?