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UPPER ROOM ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Fall/Winter, 2018

Pastor Jim Otte

“Foundational Truth for a Confused World: The Ten Commandments”

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Session Sixteen: The Sixth Commandment – Thou shalt not commit adultery.
As God’s “beloved,” cherish the sacredness of marriage, in word and deed.

(Luther) **“We should fear and love God that we may lead a chaste and decent life in word and deed, and each love and honor his/her spouse.”**

From Previous Lessons:

- a. As God’s beloved and recipients of God’s mercy, mercy toward others and ourselves is our goal.
- b. Mercy can carry you through even when you are denied justice.
- c. Are there limits to seeking justice for yourself or others?
 - a. Taking matters into your own hands, when the justice system breaks down, or does not deliver the justice you expected?
 - b. Does the State’s policy of Capital punishment (a 4th Commandment issue) violate the principle of the sacredness of life (a 5th Commandment mandate)?

1. What is marriage (Biblically)? The lifelong union of one man and one woman into one flesh. Foundational Verses:

- a. **Genesis 2:21-24.** *So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man’s ribs^[a] and then closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib^[b] he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. ²³ The man said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.” ²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.*
- b. **Matthew 19:4-7.** *“Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’^[a] ⁵ and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’^[b]? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”*

2. What is adultery? To give the love/affection of one’s heart and/or body to someone outside of his/her marriage.

- a. **Matthew 5:27-30.** *“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’^[a] 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.

i. “anyone who looks...lustfully”

1. **“who looks”** – not a mere glance, but habitual
2. **Lust** = changes your perspective; you no longer see him/her as a person, but as an object of your own self-gratification.

ii. “has already committed adultery with her in his heart”

1. The physical act of adultery begins in the heart/mind.
2. Affairs of the heart often lead to sexual affairs.
3. “Heart” adultery is secretive, but still breaks the commandment.

iii. “than for your whole body to go into hell”

1. Your spiritual relationship with God is corrupted by an unrepentant, self-serving life
2. Instant gratification takes over as the god of your life.