

In the Vortex of a Revolution

Sermon on the Mount Series – Part 7

Scripture text – Matthew 5:27-30

Introduction

- This is another example of how the Pharisees were limiting sin to an _____ action that was relatively easy to _____.
- A relevant topic: As 21st century Christians, we are in the vortex of a _____ revolution that is extraordinarily _____, _____ & _____.
- Fact: It's not close to being _____.

Part 1 - How Did We Get Here?

- The roots of the sexual revolution can be traced back to the _____ of the 18th century.
- During this period, God's _____ became subordinate to human _____. Morality thus became untethered from the idea of _____ truth revealed to us by a _____ God. From now on, humanity would have the final _____.
- Above all, Western society values _____, which it defines as the ability to do whatever you _____. Our society considers it _____ to repress one's _____.
- Christians also love freedom, but understand we have a _____.

Part 2 – How Jesus Would Have Us Respond?

- In these revolutionary times, Jesus our Lord wants us to joyfully _____ the Judeo-Christian sexual ethic revealed to us in _____.
- This is both for _____ & _____.

continued on reverse side

- The Judeo-Christian sexual ethic has 3 main planks:
 - 1) Our sexuality is a _____ gift from a _____ God.
 - 2) God tells us how to express our sexuality in such a way as to lead to human _____. God blesses sex within the covenant of _____.
 - 3) To express our sexuality in other ways does great _____ to ourselves & others.
- Verses 29 & 30 are not to be taken _____. Jesus is using hyperbole to make a point, namely, that sexual sin is so _____ that we're wise to avoid it at all costs.
- America is schizophrenic. On the one hand, we have the #MeToo movement. On the other, our nation is awash in _____.
- We are raising a generation of boys & young men who will be _____ of a healthy & loving relationship with a woman. Sex will become increasingly _____.

Part 3 – What Pastoral Help Does Jesus Offer?

- Perhaps the most important thing to know about the battle for sexual holiness is that it is a _____.
- What causes us to sin sexually? Jesus says it is our _____. John Stott: “_____ -adultery is _____ -adultery.”
- Bottom line: We control our _____ by controlling our _____.
- Thomas Chalmers wrote about “*the expulsive power of a new _____.*” The idea is that it's futile to simply _____ an affection; instead, replace the affection with a _____ one. For the Christian, the “greater one” is _____.
- As we move toward loving Christ _____, our affections become _____ and, ironically, more _____.

Family Discussion Questions

1. How careful are we about what we see or read?
2. How can we move further toward loving Christ supremely?

Who's Who in Today's Message

- John Stott (1921-2011) – Anglican priest. His commentaries are among the best.
- Tim Keller (1950-) – founding pastor of Redeemer Church in NYC and prolific author. Intellectual, yet accessible.
- Thomas Chalmers (1780-1847) – Scottish pastor, theologian and social reformer. Author of “*The Expulsive Power of a New Affection.*”

