



Battling Lust

Matthew 5:27-30

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In Matthew 5:27-30, Jesus teaches us that in the battle against lust, you must avoid 3 errors.

1. The Wrong Diagnosis of Your Problem (vv.27-28)

2. The Wrong Approach to Kill Your Lust (vv.29-30)

3. The Wrong Motive to Kill Your Lust (vv.27, 29-30; Exodus 20:1-2)

Questions to Consider

1. How have you been guilty of caring more about an outward appearance of holiness and Christian character than about inward holiness and purity? In what ways does this passage call us to repent, confess, and change your heart?
2. Why can Jesus say, "You have heard it say... But I say..."? What is the implication then for our lives and obedience to what he says in verse 28?
3. Why is the heart so important to change if we want to see lasting behavioral change?
4. How should we view the sin of lust in light of Jesus's radical claims in verses 29-30?
5. As you think about motivation for killing your lust, does eternity enter your thinking?
6. How should Jesus's greater Exodus salvation through his death and resurrection motive us towards obeying the ethical command here and any other in the New Testament?

Recommended Book: *Pornography: Fighting For Purity; 31-Day Devotional*, by Deepak Reju