

**May 20, 2020**

**Commandment #7**

The seventh commandment is, “Thou shalt not commit adultery.” (Exodus 20:14 & Deuteronomy 5:18). Adultery is an intimate physical relationship between a man and a woman outside the bounds of marriage or between two individuals other than a husband and wife. Another term found in scripture is fornication. Both adultery and fornication refer to immoral sin.

To understand the seriousness of this sin, we must understand it in the context of marriage. Marriage is the union of one man and one woman in holy matrimony as husband and wife. Genesis 2:24 “Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” Marriage is a union whereby two become one. Read **Matthew 19:5-6** and **Mark 10:7-9**. When two individuals are married, who joins them together? Man is not to undo, what God has done. Another key passage is **Ephesians 5:22-33**. In this passage, Paul is dealing with the marital relationship. Notice verse 31. Does it look familiar?

Now look closely at verse 32. What is marriage a picture of? It is a picture of the relationship between Christ and the church. When a person is saved, they are married to Christ, they become part of the bride of Christ. When we turn from God to pursue the things of the world, we are guilty of spiritual adultery, James 4:4. Just as we are to remain true to Christ, so to, a husband and wife are to remain true to one another.

Turn to **I Corinthians 6:15-20**. As believer’s our body is the temple or dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. Our body is no longer ours, to do with as we please. We belong to God, being purchased with His blood. When we partake of immoral sin, we are using that which belongs to God to satisfy our own sinful desires. Verse 18 makes it clear, not only are we sinning against God, but we are also sinning against our own body.

One last passage, **Matthew 5:27-28**. In this passage, Jesus deals with the root of the sin, the heart. We can be guilty of adultery long before the actual physical sin takes place. Remember, our actions are born out of our heart. Proverbs 4:23 “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.” How do such immoral thoughts enter the heart? Through the things we see. We must guard our eyes. Job 31:3 “I made a covenant with mine eyes: why then should I think upon a maid?” Pornography and other forms of suggestive material allow wicked thoughts to enter the heart and mind. This can then lead us into the depths of sin. Are there viewing habits in your life that need to change? What about your relationships? Are you maintaining pure thoughts and actions? What steps can you take now, to prevent you from yielding to immoral temptations?