



- Somewhere in the hills above the Sea of Galilee the huge crowd gathered to listen to Christ
- Thousands of Jews came to see “the *Tzadik*”, and hoped he could heal them of their infirmities
- Matthew 4:23 – 5:2
- Yeshua living nearby in Capernaum
- Christ had not yet publicly revealed His divine nature or His mission



- Scrolls were hand-copied, expensive, bulky, and at most contained one book per scroll
- Scripture teaching took place at the local Synagogue, but Scripture took a back seat to Traditions
- "The Law and the Prophets" = shorthand for *Tanakh*

“.... Thou shall not
commit adultery...”

EXODUS 20:14



- 7th Commandment is a directive about sexual behavior
- Much of Christianity disavows this because they have disavowed the Old Testament
- Adultery only has meaning within the context of marriage
- Within a marriage a union occurs
- God has authorized a union between 1 man and 1 women

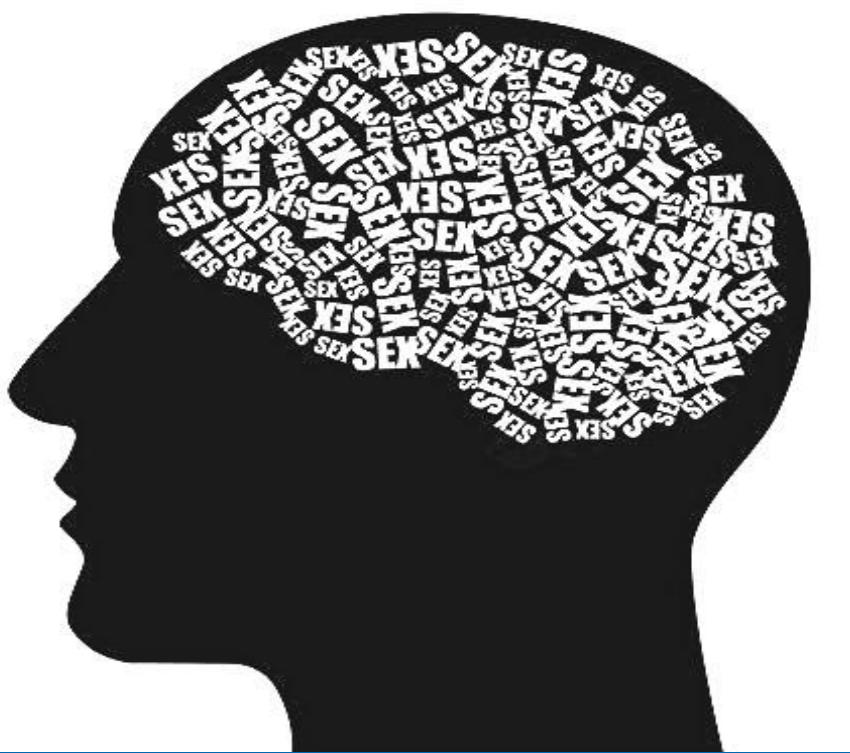
BETROTHAL, MARRIAGE & ADULTERY

- Believers are currently in a state of betrothal to Christ
- For Believers to come into union with something or someone forbidden is adultery
- Unfaithfulness to your union partner did not have to be having sex with another
- Requirement for a crime to qualify as adultery evolved over time
- There are unions legitimately available to us, and unions that are mutually exclusive



IT BEGINS IN THE MIND

- From Yeshua's perspective to lust is to have done the deed
- Anger is the initiating cause of murder, just as lust is the initiating cause of adultery
- Christ is speaking from the view of the 10th Commandment
- Coveting is a sinful state of mind
- The "right" of anything is the best, most valuable



10. Do Not Covet



GEI-HINNOM

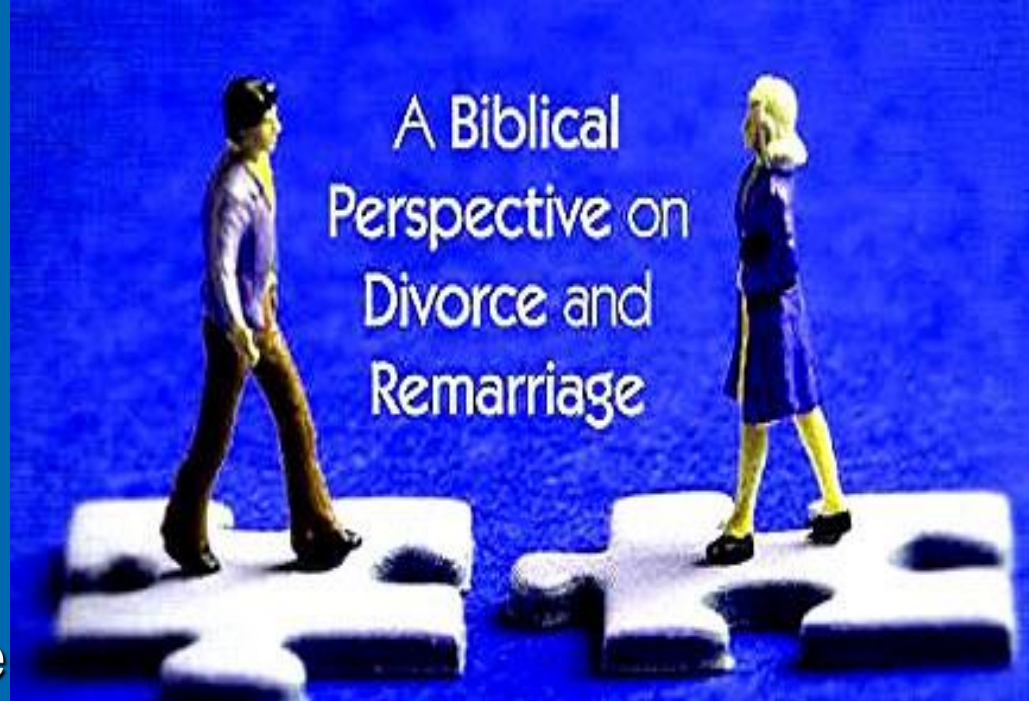
- Hinnom is a valley that runs through Jerusalem
- Used as a dump for every disgusting thing
- Always on fire
- Plucking out the right eye is hyperbole, since mutilation is prohibited
- Point is that the sin of lust is so serious that it is better to lose an eye than your entire body

- Yeshua is talking to men!
- Men are tempted the most by lust, which is why pornography is so destructive a trap
- It WILL lead to wrong sexual behavior just as drugs will lead to addiction
- Vs. 30 speaks of cutting off the right hand to avoid sin
- Same idea as plucking out the eye
- It is hyperbole to make a point
- Matthew 18:9

Is
Pornography
Adultery



- Yeshua says a divorced woman can be an adulteress
- In that era, it was men who did the divorcing
- Only legitimate reason for divorce is unfaithfulness
- Deuteronomy 24:1 – 4
- Yeshua doesn't overturn the Law, He says divorce shouldn't happen
- Instruction on divorce likely had some textual corruption, and there were customs we don't know about
- Divorce was frivolous in the 1st century



THE PROBLEM WITH OATHS



- Several translations of verse 33
- No real distinction between vow and oath
- To swear an oath meant to invoke Yehoveh's name
- Leviticus 19:12
- Numbers 30:2 – 3
- Yeshua says not to "swear" at all
- The Mishna agrees with Christ
- Just make your yes, yes and your no, no

FRIVOLOUS, DANGEROUS VOWS



- No prohibition against vows in the Torah
- Yeshua not changing The Law is our starting point
- Saying “God is my witness” is making an oath
- Not following through is to take God’s name in vain!
- Christ says don’t make vows and oaths, just be honest in your answers