

**Russell Kelfer**

# **What is Spiritual Adultery?**

**539-B**

**Series: The Beatitudes**



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Note: Russell wrote each of these lessons in a manner that would enable him to clearly communicate them to his weekly class. The grammar or punctuation you encounter may not be technically perfect, but you will certainly “hear” his unique gift for making the message applicable to the common man in everyday situations.

It’s been said of him that he was really a writer who read his stuff. And that’s a very accurate statement!

May you be richly blessed as you “hear” as you read.

# What is Spiritual Adultery?

This lesson continues our study of what it means to be pure in heart. In review, the basic meaning of the word “pure” leads us to five aspects of a pure heart.

Aspect 1- The absence of hypocrisy and the presence of a transparent spirit as we studied in Matthew 23.

Aspect 2- The second facet of the glitter of the diamond of a pure heart was pure motives. As we studied II Corinthians 5:14, we recognized that there is one basic motive that pleases the heart of God, and that is when the love of Christ constrains us.

Aspect 3- A clear conscience. This has three basic parts. The first part is a clear conscience with God, as we saw in I John 1:9. In this passage we found what it really means to confess our sins. The next part is a clear conscience before men as we found in I Corinthians 8:10 and Romans 14. We asked the question, “Am I my brother’s conscience?” We found the last basic part in Matthew 5:23,24, where we learned how we are to have a clear conscience with others.

Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. (Matthew 5:23,24 NKJV)

Aspect 4- Single-mindedness. This is the subject we will be studying in this lesson. What does it mean to be single-minded? To explore what that means, we will do a study of James 4:1-10. The outline looks like this:

I-The Complaint (verse 8)

A- Double-mindedness

B- Spiritual confusion

II- The Characteristics of a Double-Minded Man (verses 1-3)

III- The Cause of Double-mindedness (verses 4-5)

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### IV- The Cure (verses 6-10)

#### I- THE COMPLAINT

To begin with the complaint we, turn to James 4. We will look at verse 8, which is the heart of the passage.

Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you who are double-minded. (James 4:8 NASB)

What is the complaint? The complaint is that the people are double-minded and they need to purify their hearts. The problem is that we have dirty hands resulting from dirty hearts. The Amplified Translation says,

[realize that you have been disloyal] ...wavering individuals with divided interests, and purify your hearts [of your spiritual adultery].

(James 4:8 Amplified Bible)

What does it mean to be double-minded? The word in Greek is “*disucaus*.” “Di” means two and “sucaus” means soul. Literally, it means a two-souled man. It means that he has an eye to the world and an eye to the Word at the same time. He wants the best of both worlds. Therefore, his heart isn’t pure towards God. The same phrase is used in James 1 which is the only other place it is used. It says,

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. A double-minded man is unstable in all of his ways.

(James 1:5-8 NKJV)

The two-souled man is unstable in everything he does. He is filled with spiritual confusion. The picture here is of a man trying to ride two horses at the same time. As he climbs on top of them, he puts one foot in the stirrup of one and

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another foot in the stirrup of the other horse. As long as the horses are going in the same direction, he makes it. But not soon after they start, one horse decides to go one way and the other horse decides to go another. The rider cannot handle it anymore. He is flipped off. He can't go two directions at the same time.

### THE CHARACTERISTICS

Let's look now at the characteristics of a double-minded man. What is life like for him? There are four pictures that emerge in verses 1-3.

1- The first is a picture of spiritual conflict. It says,

Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?  
(James 4:1 NKJV)

In other words, you don't get along with each other, because your eyes are not solely upon Jesus. The result is spiritual conflict.

2- Spiritual indifference follows. In verse 2 we see,

...You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.  
(James 4:2b NKJV)

These people are indifferent. These people are spiritually asleep. They do not hunger for spiritual power, so they do not ask for it and therefore they do not possess it.

3- Spiritual impotence is the next quality. We find this in verse 3. A need arises and you may ask, but you do not receive. Your prayers are not effective, because you are not praying in the will of God. You are bewildered and powerless. You are spiritually impotent. You ask and receive not.

4- This is a picture of self-centeredness. The reason you ask and receive not is because you are self-centered in your vision of God. You want to consume it upon your own lusts. You are not seeking the will of God. You are seeking to satisfy yourself.

### THE CAUSE OF DOUBLE-MINDEDNESS

This passage is saying that double-mindedness leads to spiritual conflict, spiritual indifference, spiritual impotence

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and spiritual self-centeredness. What causes this? We see this in the next verse,

Adulterers and adulteresses! (James 4:4 NKJV)

Spiritual adultery. What is spiritual adultery? Adultery is clearly the deadliest of all sins. We read in I Corinthians 6,

Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not!

Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.”

But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

(I Corinthians 6:13-20 NKJV)

What makes fornication and adultery so deadly? Primarily, it is because of what it represents to God. Your spirit and God’s Spirit were united as one when you received Jesus Christ. It was and it is a permanent relationship. He said,

I will never leave you or forsake you. (Hebrews 13:5)

It was and it is a perfect relationship.

My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4:19)

It was and is a complete relationship. You need no one

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else, and you need nothing else. Marriage and the holiness of that relationship was given to us on earth to depict in a visible, physical realm a spiritual union that is a perfect, permanent and complete relationship with Jesus Christ. To defile that physical relationship is to say by example, "I can be satisfied without God. I cannot be satisfied with God alone." It is blasphemy. This is why the Scripture says that those who defy that moral law pay such a heavy price for doing so.

God looks down on His born again ones, and He sees that their affections have been stolen by the ways, the wonders and the works of the world. As he tried to do with Jesus in the wilderness, Satan has successfully lured us with the best the world has to offer. We have become double-souled. To that Jesus Christ says,

Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. (James 4:4 NKJV)

The Amplified Bible makes it blossom into personal truth,

You are like unfaithful wives having illicit love affairs with the world and breaking your marriage vow to God. (James 4:4 Amplified Bible)

The Living Bible says,

You are like an unfaithful wife who loves her husband's enemies. (James 4:4 TLB)

Can you get the picture? Imagine a woman whose husband has a bitter conflict with an arch rival. He then finds out that his wife has been unfaithful with his deepest enemy. The Phillips Translation says,

You are like unfaithful wives never realizing that to be the world's lover means becoming the enemy of God. (James 4:4 JB Phillips)

This is spiritual adultery. You were created and re-created to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your mind and with all your soul and with all your strength. You are to hate His enemies. Psalm 97:10 says,

Let those who love the Lord hate evil. (Psalm 97:10 NIV)

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This world system and its lies that contradict the truth of God with its subtle deceptions that make God less than He is and the Word less than it is, is the enemy of God. God says, "You are in love with My enemy, and it breaks My heart."

There are two ways to fall in love. The first way is to flip, and it is often a flop. It happens quickly and ends quickly. The second way is the gradual spending of time together until barriers are broken down. There is a uniting of spirit of common ground, common love and common alliances until you awaken and realize that someone has stolen your affections. This is why Christian young people should not date unbelievers.

...For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness?  
And what communion has light with darkness?

(II Corinthians 6:14 NKJV)

What the Scripture is saying in James is that there is a gradual luring and a gradual union that takes place between the Christian and the world. This passage says that the double-minded Christian hangs on to all of the spiritual truth he can while clinging to and succumbing to the pressures and the ways of the world. It is adultery in the sight of God. In James 1, we see how God honors such a man. It says that He gives him nothing that he asks for.

Spiritual adultery means that you are in love with the world and have succumbed to its charms. You have accepted its standards. You have accepted its position. You relate to its philosophy. You believe its lies, all the while you are waving a banner and saying, "I'm a Christian." In Matthew 6 we read these words,

"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.

But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.  
(Matthew 6:22-24 NKJV)



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The word “mammon” is a Greek word, “*mammanos*”, which Bullock translates as “that in which one trusts, the world order.” It is Satan’s alternative to trusting God. In many translations it is translated as money, because money represents the treasure of this world. You ask this world what money can provide, and you see if it is not an alternate to everything God can really give you. The world will tell you that money provides security. It will tell you that money dispels fear. It will tell you that money offers hope. It will tell you that money creates power and gives acceptance. It will tell you that money accumulates treasure, but it is all a counterfeit. It is not the real thing. Only God provides security. Only God dispels fear. Only God offers hope. Only God creates power. Only God gives acceptance. Only God can allow you to accumulate treasures that will last.

II Timothy 2:1-4 explains that to love the world means involvement in the affairs of this world to the point that you become captive. We read,

You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. (II Timothy 2:1,2 NKJV)

This means to find other men who have the mark of the disciple, grab hold of them and pass it on. This can be seen as spiritual mentoring. In order to do this we see in verse three what we need to do.

You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. (II Timothy 2:3 NKJV)

We must learn how to suffer for Christ. In verse 4 we find the key.

No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. (II Timothy 2:4 NKJV)

We see that no man in the military service who wants to succeed becomes entangled in the affairs of this life, but strives to focus only on that which will please his leader. The word entangle means to weave in, to become involved in, and to be

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tangled up. It says that this man becomes double-souled. He is concerned about winning the war and running his business at the same time. He can't do it. Why not? The Scripture says that

You want to please him who has chosen you to be a good soldier.  
(II Timothy 2:3 paraphrased)

The principle of being drafted into an army is in the Old Testament many times. One reason that I believe the draft may be Scriptural is because you and I have been honored to be drafted and chosen for the service of Jesus Christ. We want to please Him who has chosen us, and therefore we should be so honored that we don't want to be entangled with the things of this world. We have been elevated to the office of a soldier.

James tells us to sell out our interest in this world. We need to disengage ourselves in entangling relationships and be single-minded about winning the battle. To do otherwise is to violate the sacredness of our relationship with the Commander in Chief. In other words, it is spiritual adultery.

If spiritual adultery is loving the world, what is the world? The Greek word is "cosmos". Bullock defines it as "the entirety of God's creation separated from God. It is the order of things in which humanity moves or in which man is the center." I will define it this way: it is the mind of Satan as it manifests itself through the ideals, standards and philosophies of a humanistic society.

In II Peter 3 we are told there are three worlds in God's kingdom. There was the world before the flood in verses 5-6. There is the present world, the heavens and the earth which now are in verse 7. In verse 13 we see the new heavens and the new earth which are to come. This passage is telling us that this cosmos, this age, the world order in which we now live belongs to the enemy. To become entangled or to become engaged with it is to commit spiritual adultery.

In Galatians 1:4 we get a little picture of what the word "world" really means.

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us

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from this present evil age, according to the will of our  
God and Father, (Galatians 1:3,4 NKJV)

In other words he is saying that we are not to remain fixed to this world order. It cost Jesus His life. The second passage is in James 1,

Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

(James 1:27 NKJV)

This is the first insight of what is being said here. What God wants us to do is to minister to the world but never become contaminated by it. It is an enigma to many. He says that we are to have pure religion and be undefiled in order to have a ministry to those who have needs. At the same time we need to not be spotted or affected by the sin in their lives.

We see in John 17 the most beautiful picture of all. In this chapter we have the holiest conversation ever recorded in Scripture. God, the Son, is speaking to God, the Father. We will begin by reading a few verses of this beautiful conversation between the Son and the Father as they talk about us.

“I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.

11 “Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.

While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

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They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

(John 17:6, 11-16 NKJV)

So the whole plan of God is that we are to be in the world but not of the world. We are not to take on its color, nor reflect its behavior, nor adhere to its lifestyle. We are to be an ambassador to serve, but never lose the marks of an ambassador. Like Jesus who came to be a slave, to be a servant, He always bore the character of God.

The world is Satan's domain. It uses Satan's authority to accomplish Satan's purposes. To love the world means to listen to its philosophy, to consider its wisdom and to succumb to its reasoning. It is to embrace anything other than the anti-God lies that the world whispers through the resources it has at hand.

Spiritual adultery then is the dividing of your affections between God and the things of this world. The world tries to subtly attract you to conform to its image, and as the Phillips Translation says "squeezed into its mold".

There are nine foundational truths concerning the issue of spiritual adultery. These are very simple and basic, but they must be dealt with so that the rest of this lesson has meaning.

1- Man was created to reflect an image. In Genesis 1:26-27 God the Father is speaking to God the Son and God the Spirit and says, "Let us make man in Our image." What is an image? It is another's likeness through obedience. When you look in the mirror and move your hand, your image always moves its hand as well. An image is always obedient to the source of that image, otherwise it is no longer an image. So to be created in the image of God means that you were made to respond in perfect obedience to the will of God. Man is not an originator of but a reflection of another image. II Corinthians 3:18 says,

We are to be changed in ever increasing splendor from one degree of glory to another into His image.

(II Corinthians 3:18 paraphrased)

Romans 8:29 says,

We are to be conformed to the image of God.

(Romans 8:29 paraphrased)

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Colossians 1:15 says,

Jesus then was the perfect image of the invisible God because He always did those things that pleased the Father. (Colossians 1:15 paraphrased)

So man was created to reflect an image, that is, to obey His Father.

2- There are only two images that you can reflect. In John 8 as Jesus turned to the scoffers and said,

“You are of your father the devil, and you will do whatever he tells you to.” (John 8:41a paraphrased)

The people got angry, naturally. They said,

“We are not of the devil, we belong to God”. (John 8:41b paraphrased)

Jesus said, “You belong to the devil, and you will do the works of him.” (John 8:44 paraphrased)

There is a lie going around today that you can be neutral in the game of life. It is an old lie. Satan started it in Genesis 3. The truth of the matter is that you have to be one of two things, light or darkness. Is there any way for light and darkness to be compatible? What fellowship hath light with darkness? None.

3- God and Satan are in conflict for the control of your life as a Christian. We see in Job 1 a typical encounter between God and Satan. God says,

“Have you considered My servant, Job? He is upright and fears God.”

Satan said, “I’d love to get my hands on him.”

God replied, “Okay, because I have a purpose in it.” (Job 1:8-12 paraphrased)

God and Satan are in conflict for the control of your life. We see this in Ephesians 6,

Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles [and tricks] of the devil.

For we wrestle not against principalities or powers against the rulers of the darkness of this age, we wrestle against spiritual wickedness in high places.

(Ephesians 6:11,12)

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We are dealing with the devil and spiritual conflict. This is not a popular concept today, but it is true.

Be sober, be vigilant because your adversary the devil like a roaring lion is going about seeking who he may devour.  
(I Peter 5:8)

4- God's weapons are spiritual for the pulling down of strongholds. II Corinthians 10:3-5 tells us this. In verse 6 we see that His goal is to bring every thought of a Christian captive to the mind of Christ. So it is a spiritual struggle to the pulling down of spiritual strongholds. What God wants to do is to pull down every stronghold Satan has in your life, so that your mind is captive to the mind of Christ. When you wake up in the morning you think, "Jesus." When you get in your car to go to work you think, "Jesus." When you get to work, you do your best work most diligently all the while thinking, you think, "Jesus." When you minister to your family, you think, "Jesus." The thrust of your life has emblazoned on it the brand, that stamp, that seal that says Jesus, and it is all of your life.

5- Satan's weapons are subtle, reasonable, deceptive and appealing to man. II Corinthians 11:14 tells us that Satan loves to disguise himself as an angel of light. When Satan appears to Eve in Genesis 3, he was very reasonable. He said, "Eve, there is just one tree that you can't eat of. Why is that? You've got to be kidding. Do you suppose you misunderstood? Why would God do a thing like that?" It is reasonable, deceptive and appealing.

6- Satan wants control of your mind. I Peter 1:13 says,  
Gird up the loins of your mind. (I Peter 1:13)

II Corinthians 3:14 says that Satan has blinded the minds of people. The whole idea is that there is a battle for the control of our minds and Satan and God are locked in conflict for that. We, as Christians, need to be aware of the conflict.

7- All of the principles needed to live this life are clearly defined in the Word of God. I defy you to find one that isn't. You may say, "Wait a minute. There are a lot of things about marriage that are not in the Bible. There are a lot of things about divorce that are not in the Bible. There are a lot of things about finances that are not in the Bible. There are a lot

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of things about moral purity that are not in the Bible. There are a lot of things about a servant heart that are not in the Bible.” That is right. There are a lot of details that are not in the Bible, but the principles are there. If you will pay attention to the principle, the Holy Spirit will give you wisdom to handle the details.

We get so caught up in trying to know all of the answers to all of the little details that we forget the principles that are laid out in the Bible. The principle of marriage, no matter what situation you are in, is to remember the basic, underlying principle of God that it is designed by God to be a portrait of the Lord Jesus Christ and His relationship to the church. It was designed by God in His perfect will to be an eternal, everlasting, permanent relationship.

We don't know everything there is about finances, but we do know that the Word of God says that we are not to be in bondage to finances. There are passages that deal with stewardship that teach that our money is not to possess us, we are to possess our money. Godliness with contentment is great gain. We brought nothing into this world, and we can take nothing out of it, therefore, having food and clothing, why aren't we content? All of the principles for living a godly life are there. The idea is that the world is at enmity with the principles.

8- The principles of God never conform to the world's philosophy. Never. Isaiah 55:8-9 says,

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord.

“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. (Isaiah 55:8,9 NKJV)

It doesn't say that they are different, it says that they are higher. Things that are different can collide and merge and make sense. Things that are on a higher plane are on a different plane, and there is no relationship. God says that His thoughts and ways are so much higher than ours that there is no way for them to merge. The philosophies of this world are penned by Satan, designed by Satan, and aimed by Satan at

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the heart of the believer so that he can confuse him and not have the mind of Christ.

9- The world won't understand and cannot receive the things of God. I Corinthians 2 says,

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

(I Corinthians 2:12-14 NKJV)

The natural man doesn't have an antennae or a receiver for God's ways. He can't pick it up.

In this battle, Satan uses five basic tools to confuse the Christian. He controls the world system we live in. Increasingly in these latter days, I think he uses these tools more than ever before to undermine the word of God. I want to look at these five tools he uses to confuse the Christian.

Tool 1- The media reports as "natural" the standards of the world. Before long, we and our children listen, grin and accept it. We agree with it.

Tool 2- Our educational system teaches the standards of the world as reality.

Tool 3- In secular counseling, the standards of the world are reinforced as redeeming.

Tool 4- Entertainment demonstrates the fulfilling of the standards of the world. At a conference I learned the literal meaning of the word amusement. The "a" means not and "muse" means to think. It means that which goes on when you are not thinking.

Tool 5- Organized religion often accepts as progressive the standards of the world. Let me give you an example.

The media defines the "good life". As you are watching a good television program with your children, a commercial



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comes on. Superimposed on the screen is the “good life”. It is when you climb a mountain, ride the rapids or race a car. You give it all the gusto you’ve got. Then you have a beer, a laugh, and you have happiness. No one ever really says that, but that is the impression it wants to leave with you. You and your children sit there being bombarded subtly with the world’s philosophy. That is the key to the “good life”. The “good life” can also be a pretty face. The “good life” can also be a new car. The “good life” is sex appeal. The “good life” is to be accepted by others who have the “good life”. This is a lie.

The “good life” is God’s life. None of these other things can bring man happiness. These things are empty and futile. But the world’s philosophy quietly and consistently throws its standards at us until as Christians we are deceived. We subtly change our standards to match theirs.

What about the educational system? It is now against the law in some states to teach creation even as an alternate theory to evolution. In textbooks today, they are required to show “alternate life-styles”. Some textbooks degrade the heroes of the faith. They clearly teach the absence of absolutes. The children in school are there for 8 hours a day, 5 days a week. As they sit in the classroom, they are quietly and subtly bombarded with lies. In most classrooms, nobody is going to stand up and say, “God is not true.” They simply quietly and subtly bombard the students with lies.

In secular counseling there are many subtle lies. When a person has a problem and goes to a counselor who is not of the Lord, he will tell you that you have your rights. He will tell you that you are a good guy, you’ve just had a bad deal. He will tell you that you can overcome by believing in yourself and by starting over again and begin to enjoy life. He will tell you that marriage isn’t forever. It is a lie.

The entertainment world is perhaps the greatest offender of all. They teach subtly through the programming and the performances that there are new and acceptable lifestyles. Homosexuality is now an acceptable lifestyle. Live-in relationships are acceptable lifestyles. Into your living room on a regular basis come incest, murder and rape. One movie

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shows a government agent stealing money who is depicted as the hero, because he didn't get caught. It is a subtle lie. It teaches that the key is in not getting caught, not in choosing what is right and moral. The other hero is a boxer who has no morals but lots of guts, and he is a hero because he overcomes obstacles.

We are teaching ourselves a lie. We are subtly saying that language and standards have changed. It is manly to be filthy. It is natural to be vulgar. We are saying through the entertainment world that men and women no longer have any prescribed roles. A person can do his own thing.

Organized religion tells us that the times and rules are changing. It tells us that roles are changing. Therefore, the standards need to be changed. The church's job in many places is to no longer uphold the absolutes of Scripture but rather to reflect the mood of society. It is a lie.

You and I have input into our lives from two sources. The first is the Word, and the second is the world. There are roughly 112 hours of awake time a week in which your mind is being bombarded with something. Now let's suppose you come to church and Sunday School for two hours a week. That is less than 2% of the time. Let's suppose you spend time alone with God everyday and study the Word for yourself for no less than five hours a week doing these things. That is still less than 5% of the total time that your mind is exposed to the Word of God. Let's suppose you are a spiritual hero and you spend 10 hours a week studying and praying. It is still less than 10% of your time for that week. The other 90% - 98% of the time, the education, the media, the counseling, the entertainment, and the organized religion of the world is basically feeding into your mind the lies of the world. That is the reason God says that the Word of God needs to be as frontlets between your eyes. It needs to be written on the doorposts of your house.

The mind is like a computer. It can only handle what it is fed. Only 2-10% of the time it is fed the truth from the Word of God, and our children's minds as well, that moral purity is a reality. It is a small amount of time that the mind is told that holiness of life needs to reject everything that will

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defile it, that there really are absolutes, as thou shalt not lie, thou shalt not steal. We take little time to teach ourselves that there are truths in Scripture that cannot change, and that there really are such things as convictions. A conviction is a biblical principle that cannot be compromised. There really is such a thing as selflessness, the act of giving your rights for the welfare of others.

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.  
(Philippians 2:5)

There really is Scripturally such a thing as a yielded will that is in the process of allowing God to run your life because you can't. It is only for 2-10% of the time, that your computer gets this programming. The other 90-98% of the time, we are told that impurity is okay. We are told that there are no absolutes, and that compromise is natural, and selfishness is necessary, and that to be self-willed is to succeed.

There are nine areas of convictions in which a Christian conflicts with the world's philosophy. The first is the character of man. The world says that man is inherently good. It says that his basic drive and desire is good. Therefore, what is or isn't good is determined by what standards of conduct have evolved in society. That is how you learn right from wrong. But the Scripture says in Romans 3:23 that

...all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.  
(Romans 3:23)

In Jeremiah 17:9 we read that

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?  
(Jeremiah 17:9)

In Romans 3 we read that

They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that does good, no, not one.  
(Romans 3:12 \*)

The Bible says that the only hope of man is to return to a God of absolutes and by His power recapture the goodness of God. This is the only acceptable substitute for the sinfulness of man. Either the world or the Word is a liar. You take your pick, but I'm going to choose the Word of God as truth.

## What is Spiritual Adultery?

In the next lesson, we will look into these nine areas of conflict. We will deal with 20-30 lies that Satan tells the Christian. As you read the newspaper, look at television, go to the movies and listen to the words of secular music, observe the advertising. As you teach or learn in school, be alert to the devious methods that Satan uses to draw your affections unconsciously from the person of God to the personality of the world. The world calls it “relating”. God calls it spiritual adultery. The world says that it will make you happy. God says that it will make you double-minded, unstable in all your ways. Ours is a God of holiness, absolutes, convictions, selflessness. God wants us to yield our wills to him. When we respond only to Him and His standards, we will have a life of bliss. That is what this beatitude is all about.

Oh what bliss for the man, the woman, who is single-minded, with a pure heart for he shall see God.

(Matthew 5:8 paraphrased)

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