

I. Review SOTM

- A. The SOTM is the unveiling of the heart of the King and an invitation to walk in the fullness of the life of the Kingdom that He made available to us through the New Covenant. The incarnation, death, and resurrection of our Savior is a clear and statement about the death that exists in our hearts is from His vantage point, and how dedicated He is to eradicate it from our lives. (Rom 8:1-6; Heb. 9:1-14)
1. In His relentless pursuit of the fullness of love, not only did Jesus die and rise again on our behalf to free us from death within, but continues to expose areas of death in our heart in order to bring us to fullness. (Heb. 12:25-29; Rev. 1:14)
 2. Six Weeds – Jesus puts forward six particular aspects of the law in which the outward action of obedience was being walked out by the scribes and Pharisees, but the death within the heart still remained. Jesus places the priority on righteousness in the inward parts that produces outward righteousness. (Mat. 5:17-20)
 - a. **Spirit of murder** - Thoughts and words that come forth in our distain for certain individuals and our desire be free of them is the same spirit of murder as the actual action of murder.
 - b. **Spirit of covetousness** – Evil desires to have what is forbidden for us to have. Covetousness is rooted in selfishness and fueled by sight and sensual interaction.

II. Understanding Relational Covenant

- A. God gave relational covenants, with the covenant of marriage as a primary expression, reminder, tutor, and demonstrator of His relational covenant with us. To undermine and profane the marriage covenant was to undermine and profane His relational covenant with us. This is why marriage is to be considered sacred.
- B. Relational Covenants have four main distinctive aspects that make them different from any other kind of agreements, or contracts.
1. Relational Fullness – The expectation of covenant relationship is that it brings both parties progressively into deeper relationship. Much of this depth is formed through walking together through difficult seasons and personal differences; the covenant bound them to work through those things together for the purpose of relational fullness. (Song. 4:16; Lk 3:16-17; Eph. 5:21-33)

2. Gives Pure Hearted Strength – Covenant was different than a contract in that both parties are focused on offering their strength to the betterment of the other party. A contract is focused upon receiving a service from another in exchange for strength. (Gen. 2:18 (Ezer/Helper Ps. 124:1-8); Ez. 16:1-16; Hos. 2:18-20; Rom. 5:6-8)
3. Interdependent Purpose – The marriage covenant was given by God because when a man and woman joined together in covenant, they became one flesh or unit. It was only out of this divine oneness they could walk out their created destiny of being fruitful and multiplying and subduing the earth with the righteousness and knowledge of God. This principal can be applied to all relational covenants. (Gen. 2:18, 22-24, 1:27-28; Rev. 1:10, 5:6)
4. Permanent Reality – Biblical covenants were eternal in nature and unconditional in their binding realities and intentions whether or not the individuals involved in the covenant upheld it. (2 Sam. 23:5; Is. 24:5; Jer. 32:40; Ezk. 37:26)

III. Exposing and Eliminating the Spirit of Treachery (Mat. 5:31-32)

- A. Jesus wants to expose how we open the door to treachery and allow it to grow and kill relational love in the heart producing the outward action of divorce or breaking of covenantal relationship. The religious legalist has great disdain for those who have divorced their spouse, and are blind to the fact that they have undoubtedly divorced their spouse in their heart and mind for years.
 1. Adultery – There are some who believe that if you divorce and remarry that your remarriage is perpetual or permanent adultery. It is my opinion that this is a misunderstanding. Jesus is saying that the act of remarriage is an act of adultery. He is not teaching that the ongoing covenant relationship with the new spouse is a state of perpetual adultery as if God refused to recognize the remarriage as legitimate in any sense. (Deut. 24:2-4)
- B. The word “treachery” literally means to disguise oneself and to act deceitfully, and is only used when speaking of the intentional breaking or using of a covenant in order to benefit one’s self. It carries the idea that an individual used the covenant with another for unrighteous personal gain in mind. (Lam 1:2; Is. 24:16)
- C. The spirit of treachery works in our hearts to directly undermine the 4 main dynamics of relational covenant and specifically focuses on self-interest rather than covenantal relational love. (Jer. 3:20; Mal. 2:13-16; Mrk. 10:1-12)

1. Abandons Relational Challenges - Instead of viewing the marriage covenant as the bond that brings you into unlimited deeper capacities of love, treachery shuts down your drive to be stretched in your love, treachery wants to abandon relationship in seasons of relational pain and trial because it's too difficult.
2. Gives only if Receiving – Treachery focuses in upon the injustice of inconsistency or unproportioned relational participation. A treacherous heart justifies a withholding of love and strength to the relationship based upon the other party's unproportioned reciprocation of love and strength.
3. Rejects Interdependence and Promotes Personal Destiny – A treacherous heart focuses upon how the relationship is benefiting their personal destiny and quality of life and will either use the covenant or detach from the covenant to further those personal purposes.
4. Conditional Contract – Someone who is giving place to treachery will always view relational covenants as conditional contracts that become null and void in their mind if they do not feel that the other party is living up their part of the covenant in their eyes.

IV. Deliverance, and Transformational Healing Practical's

- A. Abundant life and love in marriage is found in resisting or pulling the weeds of treachery from the garden of your heart by beholding or meditating upon the Faithful One in whom there is no trace of treachery. (2 Pet. 1:2-4)
 1. Ask the Holy Spirit expose treachery
 2. Repent of treacherous thoughts or intentions that He exposes
 3. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you the faithfulness and purity of the covenant Jesus made with us and how he walks it out. Use the verses under **section II** in these notes to help you.
 4. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill your heart with the life and love of God for your marriage.