

Le Nouvel Esprit:
A Video Series on the Theology of
the Body

TOB 34, General Audience of Aug. 6, 1980

Hardness of Heart

- Matt. 5:28's adultery of heart is linked with Matt. 19:8's hardness of heart
- This hardness of heart
 - Is an accusation of
 - The ethos of the Old Testament gave rise to something contrary to the original desire of God
 - The interior subject who is responsible for deforming God's law
 - A command
 - The Sermon on the Mount proclaimed a new ethos, the Gospel
 - This new ethos is linked to the "beginning", to God's original vision
 - Addressed to historical man who participates in the threefold concupiscence
- These verses have both anthropological and ethical content that need to be unified, spoken by Christ with a realism about the condition of the heart after concupiscence

Looking to the Future

- Christ addressed a definite society, so we must understand its references, situations, institutions, and history to understand the ethical content of Matt. 5
- The Sermon on the Mount is a universal message for all men and women
 - Christ's appeal to the heart singularly identifies everyone
 - Christ appeals to the heart of every person in an adequate, concrete, unrepeatable way
- Task is to analyze the meaning “you shall not commit adultery”
- The content of ethos in various historical formulations always points to the innermost aspect of man proper to his image
 - C.S. Lewis' *The Abolition of Man*

Thank You for Watching

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