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### BlackSDA \_ 3ABN \_ Porneia. Matthew 19 And Spiritual Adultery

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**Posted by: tall73 Jul 31 2006, 12:30 AM**

Spiritual Adultery is the term that was applied in the 3ABN saga to justify Danny's remarriage. And it has raised an interesting question. Need there be physical adultery to apply Jesus' 'exception clause?'

Here is the text in question:

#### QUOTE

Mat 19:8 He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.  
Mat 19:9 And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery."

Jesus' statement suggests he was clarifying the law found in Deut. 24 in which they were permitted to divorce if "indecency" (uncleanness in KJV) was found in her.

#### QUOTE

Deu 24:1 "When a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, and she departs out of his house

(Strong's)

ערוה

'ervâh

er-vaw'

From H6168; nudity, literally (especially the pudenda) or figuratively (disgrace, blemish): - nakedness, shame, unclean (-ness).

Now the question is, what was entailed by this "indecency" (Deut) or sexual immorality/adultery/fornication (Matthew). The term used in the exception clause is the oft-debated term Porneia. You can look up all of its uses using Strongs etc. Here are some of the more interesting ones:

#### QUOTE

Mat 15:19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

Gal 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality

These texts use both Porneia and the more specific word, Moixeia which always means adultery. In fact, in Jesus' statement in Matthew 19 He uses both as well. The grounds for divorce and remarriage were "porneia" and the resulting sin if this was not present was causing them to commit adultery, "moichatai."

This indicates that either porneia was distinct from adultery or was a broader word that also included adultery.

(Strong's)

porneia

por-ni'-ah

from G4203; harlotry (including adultery and incest); figuratively idolatry: - fornication.

μοιχεΐά

moicheia

moy-khi'-ah

From G3431; adultery: - adultery.

The next text of interest is I Corinthians 7.

#### QUOTE

1Co 7:1 Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: "It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman."

1Co 7:2 But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.

Here it is clear that marriage was intended partly as a means to help resist sexual immorality (porneia) by unmarried people. In other words, if you are lusting, get married. Here fornication is used of the unmarried probably in the sense of sex outside of marriage.

#### QUOTE

Act 15:20 but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood.

In the Acts council they enforced upon the gentiles the same requirements already made of "strangers" (ie. Gentiles) living among the Israelites in the law. The sexual immorality mentioned in Acts is spelled out in its various forms in Leviticus. The list includes acts done while married (wife's sister) which would be problematic both as adultery and as having sex with close relations.

#### QUOTE

Requirements of strangers

Eating blood:

LEV 17:10 " Any Israelite or any alien living among them who eats any blood--I will set my face against that person who eats blood and will cut him off from his people. 11 For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life. 12 Therefore I say to the Israelites, "None of you may eat blood, nor may an alien living among you eat blood."

Sexual immorality:

LEV 18:6 " ` No one is to approach any close relative to have sexual relations. I am the LORD.  
 LEV 18:7 " ` Do not dishonor your father by having sexual relations with your mother. She is your mother; do not have relations with her.  
 LEV 18:8 " ` Do not have sexual relations with your father's wife; that would dishonor your father.  
 LEV 18:9 " ` Do not have sexual relations with your sister, either your father's daughter or your mother's daughter, whether she was born in the same home or elsewhere.  
 LEV 18:10 " ` Do not have sexual relations with your son's daughter or your daughter's daughter; that would dishonor you.  
 LEV 18:11 " ` Do not have sexual relations with the daughter of your father's wife, born to your father; she is your sister.  
 LEV 18:12 " ` Do not have sexual relations with your father's sister; she is your father's close relative.  
 LEV 18:13 " ` Do not have sexual relations with your mother's sister, because she is your mother's close relative.  
 LEV 18:14 " ` Do not dishonor your father's brother by approaching his wife to have sexual relations; she is your aunt.  
 LEV 18:15 " ` Do not have sexual relations with your daughter-in-law. She is your son's wife; do not have relations with her.  
 LEV 18:16 " ` Do not have sexual relations with your brother's wife; that would dishonor your brother.  
 LEV 18:17 " ` Do not have sexual relations with both a woman and her daughter. Do not have sexual relations with either her son's daughter or her daughter's daughter; they are her close relatives. That is wickedness.  
 LEV 18:18 " ` Do not take your wife's sister as a rival wife and have sexual relations with her while your wife is living.  
 LEV 18:19 " ` Do not approach a woman to have sexual relations during the uncleanness of her monthly period.  
 LEV 18:20 " ` Do not have sexual relations with your neighbor's wife and defile yourself with her.  
 LEV 18:21 " ` Do not give any of your children to be sacrificed to Molech, for you must not profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.  
 LEV 18:22 " ` Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable.  
 LEV 18:23 " ` Do not have sexual relations with an animal and defile yourself with it. A woman must not present herself to an animal to have sexual relations with it; that is a perversion.  
 LEV 18:24 " ` Do not defile yourselves in any of these ways, because this is how the nations that I am going to drive out before you became defiled. 25 Even the land was defiled; so I punished it for its sin, and the land vomited out its inhabitants. 26 But you must keep my decrees and my laws. The native-born and the aliens living among you must not do any of these detestable things, 27 for all these things were done by the people who lived in the land before you, and the land became defiled. 28 And if you defile the land, it will vomit you out as it vomited out the nations that were before you.

#### Idols

Lev 17:3 If any one of the house of Israel kills an ox or a lamb or a goat in the camp, or kills it outside the camp,  
 Lev 17:4 and does not bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting to offer it as a gift to the LORD in front of the tabernacle of the LORD, bloodguilt shall be imputed to that man. He has shed blood, and that man shall be cut off from among his people.  
 Lev 17:5 This is to the end that the people of Israel may bring their sacrifices that they sacrifice in the open field, that they may bring them to the LORD, to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and sacrifice them as sacrifices of peace offerings to the LORD.  
 Lev 17:6 And the priest shall throw the blood on the altar of the LORD at the entrance of the tent of meeting and burn the fat for a pleasing aroma to the LORD.  
 Lev 17:7 So they shall no more sacrifice their sacrifices to goat demons, after whom they whore. This shall be a statute forever for them throughout their generations.  
 Lev 17:8 "And you shall say to them, Any one of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who sojourn among them, who offers a burnt offering or sacrifice

Lev 17:9 and does not bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting to offer it to the LORD, that man shall be cut off from his people.

It appears that porneia could carry a number of connotations. Adultery, incest, pre-marital sex, etc.

So with this information in mind the question comes up, what did Jesus mean by his exception clause? There are a few views.

1. Only literal, physical adultery would release someone from the marriage and allow for remarriage.
2. Fornication previous to the marriage that was later discovered would allow for divorce and subsequent remarriage. (Some would say that adultery would not allow for this but fornication before marriage would... (See Keith Burton's Ministry Magazine article <http://www.lifeheritage.org/Divorce%20and%20Remarriage.pdf>).
3. Any sexual uncleanness, not necessarily physical adultery (pornography, cyber sex, etc., emotional affairs, phone sex, etc.) would come under porneia and therefore qualify since porneia is much broader than the more limited term moicheia
4. There are no grounds for divorce except for an non-sacramental marriage in the first place, which would indicate pre-marital fornication, or a marriage based on incest (this would be the Catholic version, see this article for one exposition of it: <http://members.aol.com/johnprh/marriage.html> ).

It seems that any type of inappropriate sexual activity could qualify as porneia. For that matter, Jesus spoke of lust as adultery. But the question seems to be more about what Jesus had in mind by the word porneia, and therefore what would qualify as an exception, than whether phone sex (if that is what Danny meant by these conversations that were taped) would count as porneia. Note, we haven't heard these conversations, so who knows what they really have on them.

To me phone sex would be porneia. It is "sexual immorality" or porneia in the broad sense. The only question though is whether Jesus really intended porneia in the broad sense, or whether he meant it is a synonym for adultery in this context, or whether he meant it specifically as pre-marital fornication as in Burton's view.

**The Catholic view** has some internal problems as porneia seems to be used for more than just pre-marital infidelity at times, and in the list in Leviticus it includes what would be adulterous relationships.

**The physical adultery only view** would be understandable due to the feelings of betrayal it causes. However, one must ask why it is that the word for adultery is not used when Jesus clearly uses it later in the text? If He wanted to make it specific He knew how. Others would say that perhaps Jesus was simply using variety of expression, and certainly we do see that at times in all languages.

**Burton's view** is somewhat compelling. Jesus stresses the oneness that should not be put assunder and says that Moses' decree was in fact only for the hardness of their hearts. It was Moses' decree that permitted divorce at all. Moreover, as Burton notes if adultery were to free one from marriage, and Jesus had defined it as lust, then it would be very easy to be released!

On the other hand Paul does note that if a non-believer wants to leave, let them, you are not bound (which Burton also acknowledges) so the oneness is not without scriptural exception. Moreover Burton's view does not seem to account for the flexibility of the term porneia beyond pre-marital relations.

**The any sexual uncleanness view** would apply the term porneia broadly. Christians were told to avoid every hint of sexual immorality, so the standards were high.

However, taking it too broadly seems to mean that it would be quite easy to qualify. For instance does fantasy again qualify? Moreover, how many non-physical means did they have back then? There were no phones. There were letters I suppose and pornography existed at the time.

It is a difficult problem. And it is not completely clear that we have understood the exception clause to begin with, and even less clear that phone sex, if indeed such happened (so far it sounds more like accusations of emotional intimacy over the phone) would qualify.

For me personally I tend to lean toward the any sexual uncleanness view.

One thing that is quite clear though, no matter how you take porneia it does not include "spiritual adultery". That would seem to be a stretch even beyond porneia.

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**Posted by: watchbird Jul 31 2006, 02:00 AM**

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**QUOTE(tall73 @ Jul 31 2006, 12:30 AM)**

Spiritual Adultery is the term that was applied in the 3ABN saga to justify Danny's remarriage. And it has raised an interesting question. Need there be physical adultery to apply Jesus' 'exception clause?' . . .

[much deleted]

One thing that is quite clear though, no matter how you take porneia it does not include "spiritual adultery". That would seem to be a stretch even beyond porneia.

This is an interesting Bible study, however, IMO you are putting too much emphasis on this at this time, especially in view of the fact that this accusation was dropped very early on in the "saga".

As you conclude, and Clay keeps mentioning, this was indeed too much of a "stretch" for people to buy into, and thus early on was one of the clues that alerted thinking folk to the shallowness of Danny's claims against Linda. In fact, so many came to that conclusion that Danny himself dropped the term and moved to just "adultery", with his primary "proof" ending up being the unused pregnancy test that has been cussed and discussed at some length here, and then moved on to the charge of "desertion", as you will see if you get into the accounts of the charges made against Linda in the letter that was sent to her at the time the 3ABN church was trying to put an official church "censure" on her.

As you continue to read more, you will doubtless realize that the big issue is not what Linda did or why she did it, but what Danny did and why he did it--and that the "what" extends far beyond merely his treatment of Linda -- though that is the thing that grabs everyone's attention and seems to be the topic which creates the most discussion. This is partly due to the fact that we are all concerned about Linda, whom we see as the victim of abuse. But it is even more due to the fact that this is the topic toward which the ongoing "information letters" from the Chairman of the Board directs us, in his ever more explicit and embroidered accounts of his view of "what has happened".

If you will read "The Televangelist" carefully, along with the other accounts of wrong-doing in the 3ABN camp that range from immoralities of almost every kind to persecution to ex-employees that rivals that which has been given to Linda (only with less publicity), to financial irregularities, to doctrinal deviations (especially as taught to the employees) -- even including both allowing and

claiming to hear and speak "the voice of God" which approaches a "spirit guide" type of belief system. And don't forget their attitude to the tithe--which in other cases have been enough all by itself to call the condemnation of "the church" on the organization which both accepts tithe and encourages its "converts" to send their tithe to them instead of the church into which they are baptised.

Thus there are lots of questions much more discomfoting than merely the question as to whether there is something called "spiritual adultery" which can free the other spouse to remarry with "biblical grounds".

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**Posted by: Clay Jul 31 2006, 05:00 AM**

thanks for posting Tall... it was a bit long, and to me if it takes all that to try to support a term i.e. spiritual adultery, then that position is tenous.... as I said before, there is no such thing.... and if it does exist it doesn't apply in this case....

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**Posted by: no\_cults Jul 31 2006, 10:05 AM**

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"spiritual adultery"... divorce & remarriage. Leave it to man in general and to the jews in particular to be cunning and devious enough to seek their own will instead of God's will.

It says in the Bible (can't remember where) that it is wrong to divorce and to remarry one's wife. Do you know why?

Because the jews of old figured it would be just fine to bed the sweet 'tang just as long as they got their divorce on Friday nite and got married on Sunday nite. Cleaver manipulators. Always have and to this day also.

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**Posted by: awesumtenor Jul 31 2006, 12:53 PM**

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\*sigh\* Why do we, even after over 2000 years, find it so difficult to not incorporate anti-semitic stereotypes into our Christianity?

Manipulation is not a "jewish thing"; it's a "people thing". No ethnic group or nationality is the source or sole purveyors of this particular brand of inhumanity; we are all equal opportunity manipulators... for example when we use stereotypes...

In His service,  
Mr. J

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**Posted by: tall73 Jul 31 2006, 01:06 PM**

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Quite agreed.

**QUOTE(Clay @ Jul 31 2006, 05:00 AM)**

thanks for posting Tall... it was a bit long, and to me if it takes all that to try to support a term i.e. spiritual adultery, then that position is tenuous.... as I said before, there is no such thing.... and if it does exist it doesn't apply in this case....

Actually it doesn't support spiritual adultery. But the issue itself does get to the question of what exactly is needed to qualify for the exception indicated in Matthew 19.

And yes, it is long, not every issue is simple. And as you said, even the more traditional opinions on his question could be deemed as tenuous.

---

**Posted by: Clay Jul 31 2006, 01:07 PM**

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true.....

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**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Jul 31 2006, 04:52 PM**



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Sorry...but I had to address this....

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**QUOTE**

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What's scary in that above mentioned chapter/verses is that the connection w/ Father to Daughter is not actually stated. Yes...YES - it does discuss "close relatives" however it doesn't mention Father to Daughter per se - as it mentions all others.

Read above again and see for yourself....

NOT!




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**Posted by: missthg Jul 31 2006, 05:09 PM**

if you to write a thesis on something.....

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**Posted by: simplysaved Aug 1 2006, 05:09 AM**

I like the direction your posts have gone in so far..and have found in more than one views in which I agree....

From what you have posted then, the emotional affair is spiritual adultery....which would then not only include lust (which Christ stated is committing adultery in one's own heart), but would also then include phone sex, pronography/masturbation, etc.?

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**Posted by: watchbird Aug 1 2006, 06:14 AM**

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**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Jul 31 2006, 04:52 PM)**

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BOT!

smt

Immm..... nor does it seem to mention father to his wife's daughter..... interesting. But..... question time. If this is to be taken in the context of other threads in this forum ... are you suggesting that it is OK for a father to have "sexual relations" with his daughter? If so, did we just take a huge amount of sexual abuse out of the "sin" class? (I don't really think this is what you are saying.....but if not, then

what is it that you mean for us to take from what you have said?)

And another thought (question) that just arose....how do we "define" "sexual relations" in this context? Do we completely equate this form of "sexual abuse" with "sexual relations"? If not, what distinction do we make, and how do we define "sexual abuse" as it applies to father with daughter?

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**Posted by: simplysaved Aug 1 2006, 07:36 AM**

I think Bible history shows us what became of Lot's daughters getting him drunk and having sex with him "so the family name would not die"....

The following scripture would then seem to address this issue:

LEV 18:17 " ' Do not have sexual relations with both a woman and her daughter. Do not have sexual relations with either her son's daughter or her daughter's daughter; they are her close relatives. That is wickedness.

If a man is married to a woman she should not have sex with her daughter....and the converse would be true regarding having sex with one's son (also not included). It is reasonable and would appear that God was addressing some of the most common sins of the surrounding countries that were more, ahem, "appealing" or "tempting"---and also setting some boundaries in general as prior to this the call to be "fruitful and multiply" called for marriage with close relations.

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**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 1 2006, 06:14 AM)**

Hmmm..... nor does it seem to mention father to his wife's daughter..... interesting. But..... question time. If this is to be taken in the context of other threads in this forum ... are you suggesting that it is OK for a father to have "sexual relations" with his daughter? If so, did we just take a huge amount of sexual abuse out of the "sin" class? (I don't really think this is what you are saying.....but if not, then what is it that you mean for us to take from what you have said?)

And another thought (question) that just arose....how do we "define" "sexual relations" in this context? Do we completely equate this form of "sexual abuse" with "sexual relations"? If not. what distinction do we make, and how do we define "sexual abuse" as it applies to father with daughter?

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**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 1 2006, 07:58 AM**

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We have to go with the premise that "close relatives" covers the Father/Daughter - Father to the Wife's Daughter (Step-Father) relationship. I mention this because - sometimes things are not mentioned - yet we have to read deeply and gain an understanding....

Yall know I don't agree with incest period....but I had to point this out as this scripture is used as an excuse by many biblical "scholars" as a means and motive to sexually assault their own daughters.

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Aug 1 2006, 09:36 AM)**

I think Bible history shows us what became of Lot's daughters getting him drunk and having sex with him "so the family name would not die"....

The following scripture would then seem to address this issue:

LEV 18:17 " `Do not have sexual relations with both a woman and her daughter. Do not have sexual relations with either her son's daughter or her daughter's daughter; they are her close relatives. That is wickedness.

If a man is married to a woman she should not have sex with her daughter....and the converse would be true regarding having sex with one's son (also not included). It is reasonable and would appear that God was addressing some of the most common sins of the surrounding countries that were more, ahem, "appealing" or "tempting"---and also setting some boundaries in general as prior to this the call to be "fruitful and multiply" called for marriage with close relations.

....however still - regardless of what is posted - it does not mention the direct link of Father/Daughter or Father and Women's Daughter (Step-Father) **directly**. That cannot be denied if the scripture is read. Yes. "Close relatives" - but not the intricate breakdown that was done with "Aunts" and "Brother-in-laws"....

That being said - punishments have taken place throughout the Bible that can be used as a basis for law today - however the exact same scriptures are vastly ignored when they point internally to self. EX: Using all of the scriptures we are discussing; we are pointed toward the reasoning behind "spiritual adultery" and leaving one's spouse subsequently.



What of the scripture that says "husbands love your wives as yourself?" - Using the same hermeneutics one could interpret that a husband that doesn't show his wife affection, or better yet - blatantly shows the same type of affection to another woman other than his wife - is also doing "spiritual adultery"..... correct?



Also note: many try to use the exact same story as one against "drinking wine"...now it is being used against "incest"...

Now one is wrong and we do know that - but the other.... GOD never commanded that you cannot drink wine.

Hermeneutics..... assumptions..... If it works/covers one - it has to work/cover all....and it cannot be selective.

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**Posted by: watchbird Aug 1 2006, 09:10 AM**

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Aug 1 2006, 07:36 AM)**

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don't think that a man at that time who married a woman who already had children would have been considered their "father", since blood lines were considered so important and blood lines went through the male. Thus I doubt that there was any designation such as we use today which would equal our "step-father" label. If I am correct in this, then this text does indeed speak explicitly of not only the children, but the grandchildren of any woman whom the man "has sexual relations with" and would thus be at the same time more explicit and more broad in its application than as if it had merely said "step-father" or even had said a man's wife's children and grandchildren. Stated as it is, this text covers **every** woman with whom he has had sexual relation -- including not only his legal wife (or wives) but any other woman with whom he had had sex, whether in the permitted categories or in any and all of these forbidden categories.

So, yes, I agree that using this text.... or rather the absence of the specific wording you note..... as being an "excuse" for sexually "assaulting" or even "sexually fondling" their own "daughters" is completely unexcusable and a gross twisting of scripture. Any scholar worth his "salt" should see more, not fewer, implications in a text than a mere "straight read through" seems to indicate.

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**Posted by: tall73 Aug 1 2006, 10:01 AM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 1 2006, 10:10 AM)**

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Makes sense to me. It covers more bases not less.

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Aug 1 2006, 06:09 AM)**

I like the direction your posts have gone in so far..and have found in more than one views in which I agree....

From what you have posted then, the emotional affair is spiritual adultery....which would then not only include lust (which Christ stated is committing adultery in one's own heart), but would also then include phone sex, pronography/masturbation, etc.?

Thanks for the compliment. Essentially I am saying porneia seems to be referring to sexual immorality in a broad sense. And yes, I think pornography addiction, phone sex, etc would figure in there.

Emotional affairs, I am not sure that would technically come under porneia. But it could lead to things that would. It is essentially a denial of the one flesh experience of marriage as the marriage partner is exchanged emotionally for someone else. And it is a serious sin in a marriage. I am not sure as it would come under porneia.

In any case, the story is best understood by saying that Jesus was saying what would NOT qualify rather than what would. In other words, you could not get divorce for any and every reason. It had to be something that was a serious issue of breach of trust apparently in a sexual way. Which is what leads many to the conclusion "physical adultery."

And likely that is chiefly what Jesus had in mind. My point is that in a modern age when there are adult bookstores and play boy channel and sex chat and porn sites, etc. The term could likely be applied there too.

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**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 1 2006, 08:28 PM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 1 2006, 10:10 AM)**

You make some other good points also, but let's just focus on this one for a bit more. Might the reason this was not more explicit have to do with issues of paternity?

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soooo got ya!

t goes so much deeper.....




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**Posted by: Tom W. Aug 1 2006, 09:25 PM**

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**QUOTE(tail73 @ Jul 31 2006, 01:30 AM)**

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**Burton's view** is somewhat compelling. Jesus stresses the one-ness that should not be put asunder and says that Mose's decree was in fact only for the hardness of their hearts. It was Moses' decree that permitted divorce at all. Moreover, as Burton notes if adultery were to free one from marriage, and Jesus had defined it as lust, then it would be very easy to be released!  
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Great word study, btw.

One thing I would add is the observation that of the gospel witnesses, Matthew alone includes the fornication exception. Mark 10 records the same statement of Jesus as in Matthew 19 as "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery." And Luke 16 records it as "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery, and the man who marries a divorced woman commits adultery."

This explains the disciples shocked reaction, "Well, if that is so, it would be better not to marry at all." This would also close the "Burton's view" loophole. And both of these witnesses' version are entirely consistent with His preliminary statement that what God has joined, no man is to take apart as well as the exceedingly high and humanly unattainable standard that even lustful thoughts are adultery.... I think it safe to say that we all flunked that test...

Tom

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**Posted by: Clay Aug 2 2006, 07:25 AM**

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fact, in Jesus' statement in Matthew 19 He uses both as well. The grounds for divorce and remarriage were "porneia" and the resulting sin if this was not present was causing them to commit adultery, "moichatai."

This indicates that either porneia was distinct from adultery or was a broader word that also included adultery.

(Strong's)

porneia

por-ni'-ah

from G4203; harlotry (including adultery and incest); figuratively idolatry: - fornication.

μοιχεῖα

moicheia

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From G3431; adultery: - adultery.

The next text of interest is I Corinthians 7.

Here it is clear that marriage was intended partly as a means to help resist sexual immorality (porneia) by unmarried people. In other words, if you are lusting, get married. Here fornication is used of the unmarried probably in the sense of sex outside of marriage.

In the Acts council they enforced upon the gentiles the same requirements already made of "strangers" (ie. Gentiles) living among the Israelites in the law. The sexual immorality mentioned in Acts is spelled out in its various forms in Leviticus. The list includes acts done while married (wife's sister) which would be problematic both as adultery and as having sex with close relations.

It appears that porneia could carry a number of connotations. Adultery, incest, pre-marital sex, etc. So with this information in mind the question comes up, what did Jesus mean by his exception clause? There are a few views.

- a. Only literal, physical adultery would release someone from the marriage and allow for remarriage.
- b. Fornication previous to the marriage that was later discovered would allow for divorce and subsequent remarriage. (Some would say that adultery would not allow for this but fornication before marriage would... (See Keith Burton's Ministry Magazine article <http://www.lifeheritage.org/Divorce%20and%20Remarriage.pdf>).
- c. Any sexual uncleanness, not necessarily physical adultery (pornography, cyber sex, etc., emotional affairs, phone sex, etc.) would come under porneia and therefore qualify since porneia is much broader than the more limited term moicheia
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It seems that any type of inappropriate sexual activity could qualify as porneia. For that matter, Jesus spoke of lust as adultery. But the question seems to be more about what Jesus had in mind by the word porneia, and therefore what would qualify as an exception, than whether phone sex (if that is what Danny meant by these conversations that were taped) would count as porneia. Note, we haven't heard these conversations, so who knows what they really have on them.

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**The Catholic view** has some internal problems as porneia seems to be used for more than just pre-marital infidelity at times, and in the list in Leviticus it includes what would be adulterous relationships.

**The physical adultery only view** would be understandable due to the feelings of betrayal it causes. However, one must ask why it is that the word for adultery is not used when Jesus clearly uses it later in the text? If He wanted to make it specific He knew how. Others would say that perhaps Jesus was simply using variety of expression, and certainly we do see that at times in all languages.

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upon review of the instant replay, the moderator was wrong in the decision to move the comment made by Sarah, and the comment has been reinstated in the original thread.....

carry on...  snç

---

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 2 2006, 05:28 PM**

Be careful with this  snç it gets misinterpreted.....



BOT!

Your definition is correct Simp. However this should be taken into account whenever you look at someone and just wonder.... it don't even have to go as deep as sex. It could just be seeing some lips and wondering how they kiss....or seeing someone's hands and wondering how they would feel giving a hug....

Jimmy Carter was asked if he had ever committed adultery. He stated yes. There was a big uproar. He then stated something akin to this:

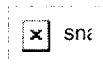
"I'm a man. I have looked at a pretty woman. I have wondered how it would be to kiss her. I have even wondered about sex a few times....but I have never *physically* done it. I love my wife...."

Now.

Using the definition I agree - It's adultery....but using the definition.....is there anyone that hasn't committed said offense - ever?



Carry on!



\*(See disclaimer below)\*

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**Posted by: simplysaved Aug 2 2006, 06:33 PM**


When a person makes a conscious decision to stay and or place himself/herself in a state of mind where they "linger" in thoughts of lust and/or sexual activity for someone who is not their spouse (whether married or single), then scripture states that this is adultery. Not the temptation, but staying there in the mind or acting on the emotive thoughts or feelings.

Jesus told Mary "Go and sin no more"....

Now with that stated, if a person engages in consistent behaviors (i.e. phone sex, internet cam video, pornographic web-sites) and does not want to stop--especially when caught, whether or not they have actually touched the other person physically, it would then appear that this is adultery.

Additional thoughts?

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**Posted by: awesumtenor Aug 2 2006, 06:57 PM**

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So should we look at it when folk are fixated on the sexual habits of others as that person's attempting to commit adultery?

**QUOTE**

Jesus told Mary "Go and sin no more"....

Says Pope Gregory VII.... in an attempt to make Mary Magdalene a posthumous whore.

in scripture, Jesus never says any such thing to anyone known to be named Mary.

**QUOTE**

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Additional thoughts?

And what does it mean when these things are alleged and the allegations are found to be baseless?

In His service,  
Mr. J

---

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 2 2006, 07:14 PM**

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Aug 2 2006, 08:33 PM)**

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Additional thoughts?

Using the said definition.....how do you know when someone is "dwelling" on the thought or not?



How does anyone know if they want to stop or not?



Gettin' in the mind of others, interpreting their thoughts, that is on the edge there.....

**QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Aug 2 2006, 08:57 PM)**

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Jmph.... maybe so...

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heard that from a t'ology major before.... interesting....

**QUOTE(awesumtenor @ Aug 2 2006, 08:57 PM)**

And what does it mean when these things are alleged and the allegations are found to be baseless?

..and again....interesting!

snr

**Posted by: simplysaved Aug 2 2006, 09:35 PM**

You know when your man is "lusting after you or someone else" by the way he looks at you or them....while there are always exceptions to the rules, in general this is a fair beginning. Some other signs may include him calling you by another name, etc.

As a counselor, getting into people's minds and interpreting their thought is what you do....there is even in counseling a difference between judgment and logical conclusion based on the information/evidence presented. As Children of God, He gives us the power to think and draw conclusions to help keep us safe as well.

I accept the logical conclusion of scripture regarding the identity of the "woman taken in adultery"....I also accept EGW inspiration from God specifically stating that it was Mary Magdalene.

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 2 2006, 07:14 PM)**

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How does anyone know if they want to stop or not?

Gettin' in the mind of others, interpreting their thoughts, that is on the edge there.....

Umph.... maybe so...

I heard that from a t'ology major before.... interesting....



...and again....interesting!



**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 2 2006, 10:21 PM**

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Aug 2 2006, 11:35 PM)**

You know when your man is "lusting after you or someone else" by the way he looks at you or them....while there are always exceptions to the rules, in general this is a fair beginning. Some other signs may include him calling you by another name, etc.

Per my divorce I can tell you that none of this was the "clues" that let me know he was "lusting after someone else".... He never called me another woman's name. This does happen...of course it does, but to think that you can just "look at someone and tell" what's in their mind.... come on now. If this was the case the "many" women that state they "never knew" should have known...but they didn't know! I know you know better than that!

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Aug 2 2006, 11:35 PM)**

[color=#993399]

As a counselor, getting into people's minds and interpreting their thought is what you do....there is even in counseling a difference between judgement and logical conclusion based on the information/evidence presented. As Children of God, He gives us the power to think and draw conclusions to help keep us safe as well.

True.

But GOD doesn't give me the power to tell someone when they are "dwelling" on a thought or not. He never gave me the power to "tell someone" what they are thinking or not thinking. We do "interpret" thoughts - but I don't sit down and think about others thoughts for time past time....wondering...thinking...."dwelling" on what I "think" may be their thoughts....  
BTW: What if the conclusion you draw is incorrect? Sitting down, "dwelling" on what you think someone else's thoughts are...and they are totally the wrong thoughts?

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Aug 2 2006, 11:35 PM)**

[color=#993399]

I accept the logical conclusion of scripture regarding the identity of the "woman taken in adultery"....I also accept EGW inspiration from God specifically stating that it was Mary Magdalene.

Even when research states that the woman is not actual woman of fact/thought?



Whoa.



hermeneutics people..... ya gotta study ya Strong's .... ya gotta break down the original language....



Hermeneutics.....

**Posted by: simplysaved Aug 2 2006, 10:48 PM**

If you are walking with your man, and you see him turn around staring after the woman that just passed or saying ("expletive") you don't have to guess where his mind is...and again, I am not saying that everything falls in one's face...nor am I suggesting that it is anyone's job to "figure out" what is going on in the mind of their spouse or partner.....or that you always know....but we usually (not always) know when something is not right in the relationship, even if we are not sure what.

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**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 2 2006, 11:17 PM**


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Go deeper.....

I could be walking with my man...and his head turn. This does not mean that he is "lusting" in his heart (at that moment)

...unless you can read his mind.  (and again - this is the exact "explanation" that is being used by folks to state they can "divorce" their spouse.) Claiming to know their "minds"...without having true evidence on record (a "name" stated in passion, connecting letters, taped phone conversation, DNA from a baby....)


He could be admiring her for her beauty.

He could think he knows her.

He could know her and it be a "relative".

He could turn and not even be looking at her - he could be looking at someone else and you get it twisted.

The "expletive" that he exclaims could be to admire (lust), it could be in disgust, it could be in jest, it could be in shock. Again - unless you have the power of JESUS and can read his mind.

If you know something is not "right" in the relationship - it was "wrong" long before you started to think about what you think they are thinking..... 

I can always state what I know in my mind - but to assume what is in someone else's mind. I can "guess"...I can deduce. But to be assuredly right?

Nope.

I ain't GOD.




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**Posted by: awesumtenor Aug 3 2006, 07:51 AM**

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Aug 2 2006, 11:35 PM)**

I accept the logical conclusion of scripture regarding the identity of the "woman taken in adultery"...I also accept EGW inspiration from God specifically stating that it was Mary Magdalene.

These two things are mutually exclusive; the "logical conclusion of scripture" is that the woman's name is not known and not divulged. The logical conclusion of scripture says the DOA is \*wrong\*

because not only does DOA make this woman ( along with the woman of Nain in Luke 7 ) out to be Mary Magdalene, it makes Mary Magdalene out to be Mary of Bethany, sister of Martha and Lazarus... which is not only altogether not consistent with scripture; it's plain and unadulterated doctrinal error.



DOA saying it's Mary Magdalene is not inspired; there are bible commentators who make the same speculation long before EGW... but if you study the origins of that position, it originated with Pope Gregory VII... and it is inconsistent with scripture. It's a popular error and many continue to subscribe to it... but so is saying that the sacredness of the Sabbath has been transferred to sunday.

Eisegetical thinking is the cause of most doctrinal error... and on this, you continue to think eisegetically. Rather than drawing conclusions and then trying to shoehorn scripture into them to make it fit what you already believe, try allowing what scripture say to determine what you should believe. EGW never desired that any view her as having ex cathedra infallibility and she knew she could and had occasionally erred and admitted such... why is it so hard for some to accept that part of what she says as being inspired ( or that she even said it at all ) ?

In His service,  
Mr. J

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
**Posted by: Clay Aug 3 2006, 08:05 AM**

cause Ellen said it and it must be right... even if the bible didn't say it, Ellen trumps the bible cause Ellen is the modern prophet.... or is it Mr. Shelton?  (see how I brought us back around to the 3abn thing....  )

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**Posted by: sonshineonme Aug 3 2006, 09:03 AM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 3 2006, 07:05 AM) :**


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your a good man clay dash steve. 

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**Posted by: Clay Aug 3 2006, 09:09 AM**

**QUOTE(sonshineonme @ Aug 3 2006, 10:03 AM) :**

your a good man clay dash steve. 

thank you....I try...

**Posted by: simplysaved Aug 3 2006, 04:36 PM**


Relationships and the human psyche are much to complex to make a blanket statement that is 'the same for everyone'....no question about that. Proverbs and Matthew both focus on the importance for the individual to check himself spiritually and guard their thoughts and temptations they knowingly place themselves in....I also believe that in more cases than not god allows us to know for ourselves---not to attempt to be god (little "g"), but so that we are not clueless and taken advantage of unnecessarily (acceptions to apply as God is sovereign), especially when you pray and ask God to make it clear.

No matter who we choose to call the woman caught in adultery, Jesus still told her to "go, and sin no more".

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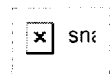
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**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 3 2006, 06:23 PM**



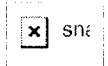
So now it doesn't matter what the woman's name was?

Ok....



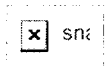
**Posted by: Clay Aug 3 2006, 06:25 PM**

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 3 2006, 07:23 PM)**



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Ok....



the reality was the woman had NO Name mentioned in the bible.... but folks were trying to give her one... now that it has been shown her name was not mentioned, folks are saying it doesn't matter....

**Posted by: watchbird Aug 3 2006, 06:33 PM**

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 3 2006, 06:25 PM)**

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Hey ..... you won your point. You havin' problems handlin' that?.....



**Posted by: simplysaved Aug 3 2006, 08:55 PM**

Let's not put words in my mouth....the focus shifted to the "theology or theory" behind the woman's name may have pulled a few "laughs" but it has also taken this off-topic...and for the purpose of this thread, it is not the most important thing...

**QUOTE(Clay @ Aug 3 2006, 07:25 PM)**

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matter....

|

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 3 2006, 07:33 PM)**

Hey ..... you won your point. You havin' problems handlin' that?.....

see...nevermind.... read the response to Steve's comment... Carry on...

**QUOTE(PrincessDrRe @ Aug 3 2006, 07:23 PM)**

sn:

So now it doesn't matter what the woman's name was?

Ok....

sn:

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**Posted by: Clay Aug 4 2006, 01:02 AM**

**QUOTE(watchbird @ Aug 3 2006, 06:33 PM)**

Hey ..... you won your point. You havin' problems handlin' that?.....

rope, I just wanted to spiritually tug at SS's chain one more time..... spiritually of course.....

arry on.....

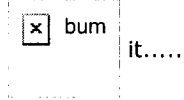
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**Posted by: alramwill Aug 4 2006, 05:21 AM**

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Aug 3 2006, 09:55 PM)**

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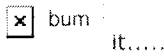
Now there is a thread where this is discussed in detail.....someone needs to find it, dust it off, and



**Posted by: Clay Aug 4 2006, 05:26 AM**

**QUOTE(alamwill @ Aug 4 2006, 05:21 AM)**

Now there is a thread where this is discussed in detail.....someone needs to find it, dust it off, and



here it is.....  
<http://www.blacksda.com/forums/index.php?showtopic=4527&st=0>

**Posted by: PrincessDrRe Aug 4 2006, 05:10 PM**

**QUOTE(simplysaved @ Aug 3 2006, 06:36 PM)**

Relationships and the human psyche are much to complex to make a blanket statement that is 'the same for everyone'....no question about that. Proverbs and Matthew both focus on the importance for the individual to check himself spiritually and guard their thoughts and temptations they knowingly place themselves in....I also believe that in more cases than not god allows us to know for ourselves---not to attempt to be god (little "g"), but so that we are not clueless and taken advantage of unnecessarily (acceptions to apply as God is sovereign), especially when you pray and ask God to make it clear.

No matter who we choose to call the woman caught in adultery, Jesus still told her to "go, and sin no more".

That is all I was trying to say. One cannot make blanket statements that are all negatively based....when in fact it could be the total opposite.

I also agree that GOD allows us to "know for ourselves"...however this is also dependent on the psyche of the person.... \*(Ever had a person tell you - "you *had to have seen it coming?* If you had seen it then their would be no reason for it!)

