



## A NEW HUMANITY: SEXUAL DESIRE

### Introduction

Aloha everyone! If we haven't met, I'm Mark, and I want to welcome you to our service. Next week will be the conclusion of our series, *A New Humanity*, and I pray you have been blessed and challenged by these teachings of Jesus – I know I have!

These past weeks, we have been meditating on the greatest sermon ever told, Jesus' sermon on the mount. We learned that the sermon on the mount is not simply the ethics of Jesus or His moral code, but Jesus showing us an entirely new way to be human. In other words, Jesus is not after behavior modification, but with giving us an entirely new heart. How is your new heart coming along?

This is in fulfillment of what God spoke to the prophet Jeremiah, and Pastor Glen spoke on this a couple of weeks ago.

*"But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel after those days," says the Lord. "I will put My instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be My people," (Jeremiah 31:33 NLT).*

In the old covenant, God gave His people 600+ laws to obey and to follow. These laws showed them how to live for God and be holy but the people failed to uphold the laws of the Lord time and time again. It wasn't the laws fault. It was the people's hearts. But God said, the time is coming when I will write my laws on their heart. God was going to change our hearts. Through His grace, and forgiveness, and love, God transforms our hearts so that we're actually able to live for Him – not out of obligation or forced compliance but because of His love.

**OG DISCUSSION QUESTION: Why were the laws unable to change the people's hearts? How are we now able to obey the laws of the Lord in the New Covenant?**

Jesus came to establish the new covenant between God and His people. Throughout these teachings He's showing us what it means to live as people of the new covenant, people of His Kingdom – a new humanity. He's taking the laws that we know (the old covenant) and then He's elevating them (the new covenant).

*"You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment,' (Matthew 5:21 NIV).*

That was the old covenant – the 10 commandments. Then Jesus introduces the new covenant.

*"But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, 'Raca,' is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell," (Matthew 5:22).*