

Pathwork Description of Lust – Lecture 102: The Seven Cardinal Sins

From Devotional Format - Pages 8-15, Paragraphs 9-12

*The third cardinal sin
is
LUST.*

*Lust
is so often misunderstood.*

*It [i.e., LUST]
is believed to refer to
sexuality,
but this is
not necessarily so.*

*Now, what does
lust
mean?*

*It [i.e., LUST]
means
any kind of
passionate desire,
whether or not
it has to do with
sexuality,
which is indulged
in a spirit of*

- egocentricity or*
- isolation.*

*It is the
childish attitude of*

*"I want
to
• have,
to
• get,"*

*without a
true spirit of
mutuality.*

[In LUST]

One may be willing to

- *give,*
 provided one
 • *receives*
 what one wants,

and yet

the basic emphasis
is placed subtly

- on*
 • *the self,*
rather than
on
 • *mutuality.*

True mutuality

is not possible
without the capacity
to

- *relinquish,*
and
to
 • *tolerate*

not always having one's own way.

The maturity

- *to withstand frustration*
and
 • *to relinquish one's will*

is a prerequisite for
true mutuality.

When the need to

- *receive*
is a
 greedy force

that is intrinsically
 • *selfish,*

then one can speak of

lust.

*As I have often said,
it is easy to
be deceived
because
the stronger
this selfish need exists,
the more
the person may*

- *sacrifice,*
- *submit,*

and

- *be a martyr.*

*All this [i.e., In LUST, all this sacrificing, submitting, and being a martyr]
is an
unconscious manipulation
in order to
get one's own way.*

*Since this tendency [i.e., Since this tendency to sacrifice, submit, and be a martyr
is an UNCONSCIOUS MANIPULATION to get one's OWN WAY,]
is*

- *subtle*

and

- *hidden,*

and often

- *has nothing to do with sexual passions,*

*it may
not be obvious
that it [i.e., that this tendency]
is
lust.*

*Yet
all human beings
have some of it [i.e., have some of this tendency, some of this LUST].*

Where there is a

- *forcing current*

and a

- *driving need,*

*there is
lust.*

*You all have that [i.e., You ALL have LUST, a place where you experience
a forcing current and a driving need],
and
it [i.e., and this LUST]
is even stronger
when it is not yet
consciously
experienced.*

*You may deceive yourself
because
that which you so strenuously desire
may in itself
be something
constructive.*

*Yet, you are the
• craving,
• needy
child
who wants to be
the center of the universe.*

*The raging need,
which you may or may not be conscious of,
is disconnected from
the causes
that brought about
the original unfulfillment.*

*In your ignorance,
the
• need –
or
• lust –
swells to
unbearable proportions*

*and
you become
more frustrated
because
you do not see the remedy,
which is a
change of
inner direction.*

*In other words,
 an unfulfilled need
 that remains unrecognized
 in its*

- primary,*
- original*

*form,
 produces
 lust.*

*To the degree
 that you become aware of
 your real needs,
 you
 automatically
 increase your maturity.*

*When a need
 is*

- unconscious,*
- a displacement occurs*

and

- a substitute need
 is pursued
 lustfully.*

No matter how

- legitimate,*
- constructive, or*
- rational*

*it [i.e., a need SUBSTITUTING for the unconscious need that is
 unrecognized in its primary, original form]*
*may be in itself,
 such a pursuit
 indicates
 immaturity.*

The stronger

- the urgency [i.e., The stronger the URGENCY for the need SUBSTITUTING
 for the unconscious need that is unrecognized in its primary, original form],*

the greater

- the frustration
 must be.*

It does not matter

whether this [i.e., whether the need SUBSTITUTING for the unconscious need that is unrecognized in its primary, original form]

refers to

• sexual desire,

or

• the lust

for

• power,

for

• money,

for

• being liked,

or

for

• a particular thing.

When

• these emotions [i.e., When these lusts] are investigated

and

• the original need found,

you can begin to

dissolve

the lust.

You can

come to terms with

• the original need,

but you never can

with

• the substitute need.

If this original need

is still

• childish and

• destructive,

it can mature

only

by bringing it out into the open.

A conscious need [i.e., An unconscious original real need that is still immature, childish, and destructive, when made CONSCIOUS]

*can mature
into a mutual state
where two people*

- recognize*

and

- express*

*their own respective needs
in such a way
as to help each other
find fulfillment.*

An unconscious need

must
always be

- one-sided*

and

- selfish.*

*To assume
that the sexual urge per se
is sinful lust
is
utter distortion.*

*As I have often said,
sexuality
is a*

- natural,*
- healthy*

instinct.

*If it [i.e., If sexuality]
matures properly,
it [i.e., sexuality]
combines with*

- mutuality*

*and
leads to*

- love*

and

- union.*

*If it [i.e., If sexuality]
remains
separate,
it is
• lust,
but it [i.e., but lust for sexuality]
is no more evil
than the
lust
for
• power,
for
• money,
for
• fame,
for
• always being right,
or
for
• anything else.*