



Transcript - INIQUITY Part C

Hi, I'm Scott Stanley and this is the third installment of a STAR PROJECT on *iniquity*. I decided to record some studies that would simplify the Bible, and the first subject I felt impressed to do was on **iniquity**. Now, as these studies go out, more and more people listen to them and I'm getting feedback from people asking questions. They want to know what did you mean about this and that, and I welcome any question. You can contact me via email, phone, or text. It's easier if you call, but I'll try to text you insofar as I understand.

One question that I have received deals with the word "iniquity" and how do we even know iniquity is a thought and not an action? How do we know it's "thought"? **Matthew Chapter 15** - Christ makes a statement there, and I don't know that people really grasp the meaning of what he is saying.

Matthew 15:16 16) and Jesus said, are you also yet without understanding? 17) Do not ye yet understand that whatsoever enters in at the mouth goes into the belly, and is cast out into the drought? 18) but those things which proceed out of the mouth they come forth from the heart and they defile the man. 19) for out of the heart proceeds evil thoughts, ...

Now, he is going to list these evil thoughts. I want you to consider he isn't saying that out of the mouth comes evil thought and also this and this and this; it's going to define the evil thought. **19) for out of the heart proceeds evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: 20) these are the things that defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not (doesn't defile) a man.**

What if we were having a discussion and the word "murder" was brought up, and I were to say to you, "oh, murder-- well that's an evil thought"? And maybe you would reply back, "well, you know it's actually more than that- murder is when you kill somebody." And I would say, "but it's an evil thought." Jesus just said that. I'm not making it up. Out of the mouth- out of the heart - come evil thoughts. Murder.

How would you apply the word **iniquity** to this? Is **iniquity** something you do, or something you think? Murder comes from the heart. Adultery comes from the heart. Fornication- it comes out of the heart. So for me, when I read this, iniquity (if you want to say literally killing somebody, well, that's **iniquity**) **but it starts in the heart**. If you call murder, the **literal murder, INIQUITY**, you have to call the evil thoughts **INIQUITY**. It makes more sense to me that **God is trying to help us stop sin in its tracks** in order to save you from your sin. **If all he is doing is giving you forgiveness for following through on the evil thought**, that basically is the Christianity I grew up with.

I believe I have graduated to something that helps me in my life, and sets me free from “**the sin**” – **INIQUITY!**

The action of iniquity is sin and that is the way I would consider murder, fornication, adultery. BUT I feel like this is proof enough that **INIQUITY** is **THE EVIL THOUGHT**. Again, he is calling murder an evil thought; it isn't just sin. It has to start in the mind. Everything you do or say has to begin in the mind. This really leads me into the study for today.

Each study progressively gets deeper, and today is no exception. I want to use this verse we've just read. What you're looking at is literal/spiritual. Spiritual is “of the mind.” Murder /adultery /theft begin in the mind. So, let's take iniquity and move to the cross. I pray we take our time doing this and that no one is stumbling over what I'm saying. It's essential that we move to the cross, because he gave himself to redeem us from all iniquity. **The purpose of the cross was to redeem you from iniquity.**

Isaiah 40 :1 Comfort ye my people, saith your God. 2) Speak ye comfortably (to the heart) to Jerusalem and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned:

When you begin to lust after a woman, or you get really angry at somebody (where you could just ruin their lives), you could just murder them—if you're a Christian the warfare has begun. The warfare is happening in your heart. Maybe you're married, maybe you have children and you begin to be attracted to someone and you realize in your heart “I know this is wrong and I'm fighting it with all my

might.” The warfare has started. But in this verse he is saying to speak to the heart, that the warfare and the struggling, **the iniquity - it's over**.

Speak to the heart and say your 2) ... *warfare is accomplished, the iniquity is pardoned*: (a better word for **pardoned**, is **reconciled** in this verse.) That is what I want all of us to experience in our lives—victory, but notice what he says and **how you receive the victory**-

2) *Speak ye comfortably* (Speak to the heart) *to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned*”: (a better word here is **reconciled**. Why?) *for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins*.

Two things: 1) The righteousness of God is unto everyone, but only upon those who believe. (Romans 3:22) You have your *victory* because you received something. **You received it, you believed it**. It was taught to you, and you received it into your heart, **setting you free**.

2) Here he calls it the “**double**” and I have to ask the question- have you ever heard of the double before? Is this the first time you've ever heard that “**if I can receive the double, I'll have victory in my Christian Life**?” What is the double? To simplify this as much as I possibly can, the double is what we were discussing looking at the word **iniquity**. There is a literal and a spiritual meaning to the things Christ taught. He even said this. Do you remember in **Matthew Chapter 5** (Matt 5:21-32) He said “you have been told Thou shalt not kill.” I tell you, **don't even get angry**. **You've been told you shall not commit adultery**. **I tell you don't lust**. **If you lust in your heart, you're already guilty**.

You take that **outward** commandment of **Thou shalt not kill**, and then you put it **inward**. If you are not going to kill, Jesus said don't even get angry- don't let that even begin. Remember, you can't stop the bird from flying over your head, but you can prevent it from building a nest.

So, **Christ took the law and put it inward**—he applied it inwardly. So maybe if you look at this law outward, maybe you think you're doing okay because you haven't killed anybody. You haven't committed adultery, but **have you been**

angry? And have you lusted? Yes, but the law says not to kill. Jesus shifted gears on that understanding.

Paul wrote something very significant regarding this and it's in *Romans 7:14: for the law is spiritual; but I 'am' carnal, sold under sin*. If you are carnal and you don't understand spiritual things, then **you're not understanding the law and that is where the Jews were.** **THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE LAW WAS SPIRITUAL.** Again, *Romans 7:14* makes the statement, **"the law is spiritual."** And you know what? **It always was.** In God's heart, he would never have you live your life in lust, or live your life in hate, in anger, and bitterness.

So when he said "Thou shalt not kill," Jesus informs us that means **don't get angry.** That's what that actually means. **DON'T EVEN GO IN THAT DIRECTION.**

That was enlightening for me. It was like, wow I never really thought of that! It makes more sense that **God is saving us inwardly.** Why did Christ die? To **redeem you from iniquity.** This is part of the **iniquity I have carried all my life.** What I was taught about keeping the Ten Commandments, **no one put that inwardly and really taught me how to overcome the inward. IT IS THE CROSS WHERE YOU ARE REDEEMED FROM INIQUITY.** So, when he says **your warfare is accomplished- YOUR INIQUITY IS RECONCILED,** he's talking about at the cross - that's where that happened.

If you are not understanding the cross, you're not going to be redeemed from the iniquity of your mind. Just like we read in *Matthew 7:23: Haven't we done many wonderful things? Haven't we cast out demons? Haven't we prophesied in your name? Depart from me. You are a worker of iniquity.*

You're working your iniquity. Iniquity is the thought—the action of it, or the works of it, or sin. You may think everything is fine because you haven't done this, and you haven't done that. But **you haven't understood the cross and your warfare is not accomplished. YOU STILL HAVE YOUR INIQUITY.** We need to go to the cross and correct this, and that's where we're headed. We're headed to Calvary.