

# I Cor 5:1-6:20

## Corinthians, Session Four

### **Don't Condone Immorality (5:1-13)**

The Corinthian church had a different standard of living than the world—it was \_\_\_\_\_!

The Torah is clear (Lev. 18:8; Deut. 22:30; 27:20) but even pagans were appalled by an illicit union that Paul mentions.

*porneia* = immorality; “resorting to prostitutes”, but it means any sexual activity outside of marriage or that is unnatural

What bothers Paul more—the sexual immorality or the attitude regarding it? Why?

Paul's solution is to remove the person from fellowship. This is \_\_\_\_\_, being unable to take part in the Lord's Supper and therefore out of the fellowship completely.

(Note the “remote” nature of Paul's discipline in v. 3. Helpful in our circumstances.)

Why is discipline necessary? For the good of...

- 1) The individual (v. 3-5)—“If, in the eyes of God, it is right and good for a particular person to suffer in this life in order that he might ultimately be saved, then let it be so” (Prior, 73).
- 2) The Christian community (v. 6-8)—“One persistent, flagrant sinner who remains accepted without discipline within the Christian fellowship taints the whole body”

“We all commit sin, we all need cleansing; but we are all bound to be ruthless with anything that betrays our calling and taints our fellowship in Christ. Paul is not expecting perfect holiness or absolute purity: his plea is for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 8)” (Prior, 77).

Passover and leaven

How can Paul claim the church in Corinth is unleavened?

Public sin...public action

Private sin...private action

Based on this passage, why is it appropriate for the congregation (not the leader) to remove someone from fellowship?

### **Five Other Areas that Call for Discipline**

- 1) Greed—covetousness works against contentment
- 2) Idolatry—culturally approved idols are well disguised

- 3) Reviling—disrespect especially directed toward leaders
- 4) Drunkenness—our bodies are meant to be under control of the Spirit
- 5) Violence—"just take what you want"; "might makes right"

How does being "salt and light" speak to being distinctive from while also interacting with a corrupt world?

So...whom should we judge? (Circle all that apply)

Outsiders                  Self                  Fellow Believers                  Outside-Like Behavior on the Inside

### **Settle Your Own Differences (6:1-11)**

"We have already seen that the Corinthians were proud, competitive and assertive people. They were concerned most of the time for their rights. Their rights had virtually taken over from their redemption as the mainspring of their life together. As a result, they were extremely touchy if anyone infringed their rights or inhibited their freedom" (Prior, 105).

"Paul appealed to Roman justice, but never in matters between brother and brother...Some Christians were, no doubt, winning law cases at the expense of others, but to have lawsuits at all with one another is defeat for you" (107, 112).

Sometimes the right choice is to \_\_\_\_\_ for doing the right thing.

Judging angels (v. 3)? Which ones? See 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6.

"They had moved so far from the supernatural reality of mutual love with the love of Christ, that they were deliberately flouting normal standards of business and social ethics....No wonder we can, behind all the legal language and the factual statements of this short paragraph, 'sense the sadness of Paul'" (113).

"The two cannot mix. The unrighteous cannot inherit the kingdom of God because God is altogether righteous....The significance of this conviction about who will, and who will not, inherit the kingdom of God effectively revolves round our belief about the judgment of God" (89). So how does one become right with God and stay right with God?

What three actions are added to the list of 5:10-11 in 6:9-10?

### **Don't Let Your Body Lead You Astray (6:12-20)**

What Christian doctrines underscore a high view of the body?

*The purpose of the body in the Lord (13)*

*The resurrection of the body in the Lord (14)*

*The interaction of the body with the Lord (15-17)*

*The habitation of the body by the Lord (19)*

*The redemption of the body by the Lord (19-20)*

"You are not your own, for you were bought with a price." We honor God by how we live!