

## Caring Confrontation of those Claiming to be Christians

1 Corinthians 5

Part 3 – Why?

### Introduction:

- A. The saying: Yours is not to reason why, yours is but to do or die.
  - 1. Originated from a passage describing an historical battle
  - 2. Is a misquote – originally reads: Theirs not to reason why, theirs but to die.
- B. Must we understand everything God says before obeying Him?
  - 1. I taught my kids to obey first; ask questions later. (duck!)
  - 2. God calls us not to understand so that we will obey Him, but to obey Him so that we can begin our journey of understanding.
- C. In this last message of this series we are going to learn why it is so important to confront in a caring manner those claiming to be Christians who are in unrepentant sin.

### To Preserve the Church (6-8)

- A. When does a church stop being a church?
  - 1. The word “church” in the Bible
    - a. Never refers to a physical building
    - b. Always refers to people whom God has called out of the unbelieving world (the literal meaning of the word is “called out ones”).
  - 2. When a Christian group no longer has true believers within it, the church has died.
- B. The illustration of leaven or yeast is used to illustrate what happens when sin is not confronted (v. 6)
  - 1. How much yeast does it take to permeate an entire loaf of bread? – just a little.
  - 2. If sin is overlooked or ignored, it will spread throughout the church (e.g. gossip; sexual sin).
- C. The command to obey: to call out the old yeast and become a new lump of bread that has no yeast (vv. 7,8)
  - 1. Paul is referring to the practice of preparation for the Passover meal (Ex 12:14-17)
    - a. They had to first get rid of anything that had yeast in it.
    - b. They then sacrificed the Passover lamb.
    - c. For the next seven days, they kept their households free from yeast in celebration of God delivering them from Egyptian slavery.
  - 2. Paul applies this to what Christ has done for us (v. 7)

- a. Jesus is our P\_\_\_\_\_ (God's judgment passed over believers because Jesus's sacrifice paid for our sins)
  - b. Jesus freed us from slavery to s\_\_\_\_\_, not so that we could remain in it.
3. Therefore we are to come together as a church to celebrate what Christ has done not with s\_\_\_\_\_ but with purity and truth (v. 8).
- D. Caring confrontation preserves
- 1. The p\_\_\_\_\_ of the church – it keeps the people of God from being polluted by sinful living
  - 2. The t\_\_\_\_\_ of God – it keeps people focused on what God says.

### To Restore the Christian (5, 11-13)

- A. The definition of a Christian that we are going to use – one who is t\_\_\_\_\_ committed to Christ.
- 1. You cannot restore a person who f\_\_\_\_\_ claims to be a Christian.
  - 2. You can only restore a person who t\_\_\_\_\_ claims to be a Christian.
- B. What happened to the couple in the Corinthian church?
- 1. The action was only against the m\_\_\_\_\_ and not the m\_\_\_\_\_. Only the man claimed to be a Christian.
  - 2. 2 Cor 2:5-8 indicates that the church decided to treat the man in sin as being outside the church by a m\_\_\_\_\_ vote.
  - 3. The man eventually repented. Paul urged the church to communicate f\_\_\_\_\_ and love to him.
- C. The action of disfellowshipping (v. 5)
- 1. Is called “handing a person over to S\_\_\_\_\_ for the destruction of the f\_\_\_\_\_.”
    - a. 2 Cor 4:4 calls the devil the g\_\_\_\_\_ of this world (i.e. the world of unbelievers).
    - b. Matt 18:17 states that disfellowshipping is view a person as a Jew views a Gentile or a tax collector (being o\_\_\_\_\_ the people of God or belonging to the world of unbelievers).
  - 2. Is for the destruction of the f\_\_\_\_\_ so that he may be counted among the saved when Jesus returns (the term “flesh” may mean sinful nature, the body, or even a person's life.
    - a. If the person disfellowshipped is not a true believer
      - 1) God's judgment is in the form of c\_\_\_\_\_ (Jn 3:16,18) and so the person is in need of responding to the gospel in order to be saved.

- 2) The gospel calls unbelievers to t\_\_\_\_\_ from their sinful lifestyles and trust Christ (see Mk 1:15).
- b. If the person disfellowshipped is a true believer
  - 1) God's judgment will be in the form of d\_\_\_\_\_ (Rev 3:19,20)
  - 2) God's discipline keeps the person from going to the point of l\_\_\_\_\_ salvation (1 Cor 11:32; Jn 10:28).

**Conclusion:**

- A. The action of non-association only applies to certain kinds of sins
  1. Paul states not to associate with so-called Christians who are sexually immoral, covetous, idolators, revilers, drunkards, or swindlers.
    - a. This is not a \_\_\_\_\_ list
    - b. This gives an idea of the kinds of sins that are subject to the action of non-association.
  2. These are the kinds of sins that make one look like an unbeliever.
- B. A list of some sins that the action of non-association DOES NOT apply:
  1. W\_\_\_\_\_ (Phil 4:6)
  2. Failure to be t\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Thess 5:18)
  3. Neglecting your spiritual g\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Pet 4:10)
  4. Such sins that are a matter of m\_\_\_\_\_ in the faith.