

Lesson 17: Dealing With Immorality Part 2 - 1 Corinthians 5:9-13 - Craig Crawshaw**SUMMARY LESSONS from 5:1-8**

1. God’s specific hatred of immoral sexual behavior
2. God’s expectation that the church will discipline its own for immoral sexual behavior
3. There is a time for “delivering over to Satan” for the ultimate hope of “restoring to God”
4. One unchecked sin in the body will contaminate the whole
5. There must be a way to determine who is accountable to the church and who is not

TODAY’S CONSIDERATION

1 Corinthians 5:9-13 *I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world. But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler – not even to eat with such a one. For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church? But those who are outside, God judges. Remove the wicked man from among yourselves.*

A MOTHER’S DAY MESSAGE

- Choose your friends wisely
- Sin is contagious

Psalms 1:1 *How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers!*

1 John 1:7 *If we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.*

PAUL’S VERSION OF THE ADVICE

1 Corinthians 5:11... *not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler – not even to eat with such a one.*

- A previous letter had been misunderstood
- The church is not to avoid the world

1. The church is to be a light and influence in a dark world

- The church is not to be a monastery
- We are to be an open door of hope
- We are to live in the world, but not of the world

Philippians 2:15-16a *Prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life ...*

2. We must associate with the world in order to offer an alternative life choice

- To a lifestyle of sexual freedom, we offer the godly alternative of chastity and fidelity
- To a lifestyle of greed, we offer the godly alternative of honest hard work and caring for those in need
- To a lifestyle of putting self and pleasure first, we offer the godly alternative of putting God first

3. All sin falls into 3 basic categories:

- Sinning against self – immorality, drunkenness
- Sinning against others – covetousness, reviling, swindling
- Sinning against God – idolatry

4. We must not associate with those claiming to be Christians with an immoral walk

3 important keys in helping to make this determination:

- Who are “so-called” brothers or sisters?
- What does it mean to “not associate?”
- What does it mean “not even to eat with such a one?”

WHO ARE “SO-CALLED” BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Matthew 7:15 -16a Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.

- Walk must match talk
- Fruit must be of the Spirit, not of the flesh

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “NOT ASSOCIATE”

Not “hang around” or be “friends” (we must still be friendly) Why?

- To protect from contamination
- To challenge the offender to repent and return

2 Corinthians 6:14 ... what fellowship has light with darkness?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “NOT EVEN EAT WITH SUCH A ONE”

- Generally, sharing a meal in friendship
- Specifically, sharing the Lord’s Supper together

BACK TO THE MOMS

- Choose your friends wisely
- Be sure walk matches talk (theirs and yours)
- Immorality, greed and idolatry are contagious

Ephesians 5:15 Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish but understand what the will of the Lord is.