

# I Corinthians 5 – 21 November 2021

## “Live What You Are Christian”

### Introduction

\*We're in a very practical book, teaching us about:

- Divisions & unity (*Chapters 1-4*)
- Solving Christian disputes in-house (*Chap 5-6*)
- Christian marriage when ideal is lost (*Chap 7*)
- Conscience issues ie eating of meats (*Chap 8-11*)
- Proper public worship (*Chap 12-14*)
- Doctrine of the Resurrection (*Chap 15-16*)

\*Chap 1-4, discusses unity & division beginning w/ being taught to keep Christ the focus, not man

\*The Church - place where God reigns & has authority

-Are you in the Church?

\*The Church is to be in this world, but not of it

-Are you in the Church?

\*We are different than them & should want our lifestyle now to be like what we'll be in eternity

\*Glad we go chap by chap b/c this 1 will beat you up!

**\*So today, here are 4 keys for how to deal w/ sin**

# 1<sup>st</sup> Key to dealing with sin – Identify the clear-cut factual sin (Vs 1-2)

Read Vs 1

1. Even Greek culture was against sleeping with your step-mother
2. Notice the type of sin that's being called out
  - a. It's not a questionable sin but clear-cut sin
  - b. It's not a one-time failing, but a lifestyle sin
  - c. It's not based on gossip but based on fact

Read Vs 2

1. They were proud of this sin (puffed up)
  - a. Did they accept him b/c of their 'love'?
  - b. Did they accept him b/c of their 'tolerance'?
2. If he's a nobody, they'd boot him, so it begs the question...what was he giving them?
  - a. Money, connections, etc.
  - b. Was he powerful?
3. They should have mournfully kicked this person out of the church and its fellowship

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Key to dealing with sin – Identify the clear-cut Biblical solution (Vs 3-5)**

Read Vs 3

1. Paul's letter represents his presence & mind

Read Vs 4-5

1. How do you solve this by delivering to Satan?
  - a. Jesus called Satan the Prince of this world (Joh 14:30)
  - b. Since Satan's domain is the world
    - i. Send him out of God's domain (the Church)
    - ii. And into Satan's domain (the world)
      1. See Matt 4 & Read Eph 2:1-2
2. Why turn them out of fellowship of the church?
  - a. For them to not have the help/support of the church until they've repented of the sin
  - b. Rarely works today b/c there's a church on every block
3. Matt 18 is to determine if person will deal w/ the sin. This chap assumes they're not dealing w/ the sin

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Key to dealing with sin – Utilize loving persuasion (Vs 6-8)**

Read Vs 6

1. If you're accepting of sin, it WILL spread
  - a. Others will begin see it as acceptable
  - b. Some will see excuse to do their own sin
  - c. But ALL be become selfish & independent
2. He said in vs 2 they are “puffed up” – what a picture of what leaven does. Puffs us up in pride
3. So, there are REASONS to follow biblical principles, it's not a dumb or blind faith

Read 7-8

1. We, the church, are a part of fulfilling the full purpose of the 7 Jewish Feasts
  - a. The cross fulfills Passover (Ex 12, Lev 23)
  - b. Now we are ‘in Christ’ & are to picture the sinless unleavened Christ

2. ‘As you are unleavened’
  - a. We should make our practice match our position of being holy
  - b. This is the fundamental NT teaching to the Church on how to live: “Live what you are”
3. We are “in Christ”
  - a. We are to live in purity & sincerity, b/c we are pure and holy in Christ
  - b. We are to live in truth and rightness b/c we are justified in Christ

## **4<sup>th</sup> Key to dealing with sin – Understand the duty & limit of our authority (Vs 9-13)**

Read Vs 9-10

1. Don’t have this former letter, but don’t need it
  - a. God’s given us all things that we need (II Pet 1:3)

2. There's a duality here
  - a. We don't fellowship w/ Christians in sin
    - i. We have this duty within the Church
  - b. We can't help but have some fellowship with those in the world that are unbelievers
    - i. We have this limit beyond the Church
  - c. Monastic movement of Medieval times tried separating from all sin, contrary to this passage

Read Vs 11

1. We need to hold Christians living in all manner of continual sin accountable
2. Notice each of these activities
  - a. They demonstrate the heart of 'those that must have more'
  - b. That's not the posture of a Christian!
3. 'no not to eat' – eating was the sign that you were in agreement, in fellowship, with someone.
  - a. Whatever shows you're helping someone meets this principle (Read II Thes 3:14-15)

## Read Vs 12-13

1. This goes back to verse 10 that we don't judge or criticize unbelievers' behavior
  - a. That's beyond the scope of our authority
  - b. They're of a different kingdom (Satan)
2. Contrast that we DO have the duty to judge and help believers
  - a. We don't want the individual to suffer from sin's effects
  - b. AND we don't want others in the church to suffer from that sin spreading
3. The end of the matter is that the person is to be taken away
  - a. Deliver to the Kingdom of Satan those wicked carnal Christians who are continuing in sin
  - b. With the goal of restoring them into the fellowship of the Kingdom of God

## Conclusion

So Christian, let's live what we are! We're the bride of Christ the king – in His kingdom! We're loved & blessed!

Jam 1:27 tells us that pure religion is to help orphans & widow AND to keep yourself unspotted from the world!

### **1. Let's identify clear-cut factual sins**

- a. Don't focus on questionable, one-time sins you heard thru gossip
- b. Deal w/ clear-cut facts of habitual lifestyles

### **2. Let's identify the clear-cut Biblical solution**

- a. Deal w/ sin IAW Matt 18
- b. If the person refuses you must remove them from your help and fellowship

### **3. Let's utilize loving persuasion**

- a. Let's give each other reasons to live pure
- b. With the goal of restoration of fellowship

### **4. Let's accept the duty & limit of our authority**

- a. Does no good to try cleaning up unbelievers
- b. But it's our duty to help your bros & sisters