

Why Tell the Church?

Matthew #122

Matthew 18:15-20

Notice the word choices - *let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector*.

Gentile – Ethnikos – the sense of heathen, those who are unconnected with the Jewish people and the God of salvation.

Let him be to you – tax collector, that is an outsider, one who defrauds

What is being communicated here – the church, the body of Christ is declaring that there is no evidence\_\_\_\_\_

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Why is the church excommunicating this person, why are we saying there is no credible reason to continue to proclaim this person a brother in Christ?

**Verse 18** - the pronouncement of binding or loosing is dependent upon what heaven has already willed, rather than earth's giving direction to heaven.

**Verse 20** - To ask or to do anything in God's name is not to utter His name but to ask and to work according to His divine will and character.