

1 Corinthians 5

2/3/19

Sunday Morning

**1 Corinthians 5:6** Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump *of dough*?

V.7 Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.

V.8 Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Review:

1. Last week we saw that in the Church of Corinth a man was living w/ his stepmother in incest
2. The Church was proud for being so open minded & not judging him
3. They were judging each other in pettiness – but wouldn't judge when they were supposed to
  - a. This is common among judgmental people – to judge the wrong things
  - b. The sin of the Corinthian church was greater than the sin of the man b/c of pride
4. We saw that when a believer isn't concerned about another believer living in sin – they are harming that individual by leaving them in that state
5. Paul told the Church to give the man to Satan for the destruction of his flesh – hoping he would repent before he died
  - a. But not everyone is supposed to confront a sinning believer
 

**Galatians 6:1** Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; *each one* looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.
  - b. But everyone is should be concerned for a wayward believer
 

**1 John 5:16** If anyone sees his brother committing a sin **not** leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death. There is a sin leading to death; I do not say that he should make request for this.
6. We saw the damage sin wreaks by looking at the life of King David

7. True compassionate Christianity says – “you’ve got to get out of this sin! How can I help you get out?”
8. That brings us to who the Church is & why sin is so bad – **V.6**

**1 Corinthians 5:6** Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough?

1. “leavens the whole lump of dough”
  - a. What is leaven? It an agent of putrefaction – decomposition of organic matter – (rotting)
  - b. That is why sin is represented by leaven – it causes rot!

**V.7** Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.

1. “Clean out...old leaven...be a new lump, **just as you are in fact**...For Christ our Passover...sacrifice”
  - a. Paul is thinking back to the Passover festival – how each Jewish household would comb thru their individual homes searching for any leaven; ridding every house of all leaven
  - b. He is saying that the Church is God’s household
    - i. Christ dealt w/ sin
    - ii. The Church should keep sin out
2. “just as you are in fact”
  - a. We are in fact God’s chosen people

i. We are the Bride of Christ – engaged to Him – waiting for our marriage feast – we are supposed to live pure lives

**2 Corinthians 11:2** For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you *as* a pure virgin.

- b. The Church is made up of believers
    - i. We, as individuals, are to be holy – pure
  - c. Your individual home needs to be a place of purity
    - i. Men, it is your job description to keep your house **pure**
- Ephesians 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,
- <sup>26</sup> so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

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<sup>27</sup> that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

- d. You, as head of your house, should not allow the invasion of anything impure to reside in your home
  - i. Television, movies, music should not be ungodly
  - ii. Ungodly talk, television, music, movies shouldn't be allowed
  - iii. If your children see you act ungodly when you're mad, driving a car it is wrong!
- e. If your job requires an ungodly participation, or you're in an ungodly relationship – the question is – WHY continue?
  - i. Just b/c God doesn't swat us every time we sin doesn't mean that He is ok w/ us sinning
- f. If impurity is infiltrating your life – ask God to show you a way out of that impurity
  - i. Never forget who you are – His bride – we belong to Christ
- g. We tolerate sin way too easily
- h. We are all sinners – none here is w/out sin – but accepting sin in our lives is never OK
  - i. We have enough mental attitude sin w/out importing extra!
- i. I'm talking to believers in this body at the moment
  - i. We want every sinner in town to come to church here – hope they turn to Christ or repent if there saved, but –
- j. But we have been called to holiness

V.8 Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

- 1. "but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth"
  - a. We are to live sincere, truthful lives – this totally opposite the world's view of life
  - b. "sincerity" means that which is tested in the sunlight – transparent
  - c. "truth" means something that is reality, solid, binding
  - d. Who do we lie to the most? – Self!

V.9 I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people;

1. "I wrote you in my letter"
  - a. This is **not** the first letter Paul wrote the Corinthians

V.10 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.

1. "for then you would have to go out of the world"
  - a. We are to be separated from the world but not isolated from it
  - b. Paul is stating a larger principle here
  - c. There is a vast difference between the Church & the world
  - d. Never expect the lost to act like they are saved
  - e. Never try to make the world your close companion
    - i. We walk to the beat of a different drummer than the world
    - ii. Someone has to compromise & it won't be the world
  - f. But, at the same time, when your house is flooding & you call a plumber, you don't quiz him about his beliefs before you let him in
    - i. There are extremes – don't let a known thief in

V.11 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.

1. "I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person"
  - a. "any so-called brother **if**" – 3<sup>rd</sup> class condition of assumption
    - i. Maybe he is a brother & maybe he isn't – but he says he is
    - ii. This means he might be a brother
    - iii. It takes God given wisdom to know how to negotiate in the world w/ the lost & saved in it
  - b. Why do we not associate w/ such a person
    - i. #1. – For his wellbeing – bring conviction to him, so that he doesn't die in his sin

**1 Corinthians 5:5** *I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.*

- ii. #2. – It is a bad testimony to the world – it looks like we are excusing sin

**1 Corinthians 5:1** It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

- iii. #3. – Sin left unchecked creates more sin

**1 Corinthians 5:6** Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump *of dough*?

- iv. #4 – But the Church is **not** supposed to w/hold fellowship from a repentant believer – once they repent, church discipline is over

**2 Corinthians 2:6** Sufficient for such a one is this punishment which *was inflicted* by the majority,  
<sup>7</sup> so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort him, otherwise such a one might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.  
<sup>8</sup> Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him.

v.

- 2. "I wrote not to associate w/ an immoral, covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler"

- a. Look who we are to w/hold fellowship from
- b. "immoral" we looked at
- c. "covetous" compound word means to have more – someone who is always wanting more
- d. "idolater" this is the next level up in desire for material things or money
  - i. Someone who lives for money
  - ii. Some, who see immorality as so wrong may be just as guilty – but for some reason covetousness seems more acceptable to the Church

**Ephesians 5:5** For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

iii. A believer can pretend that a love of money isn't that big of a deal – God will explain it to you where you can understand it someday

- e. “reviler” cutting down others behind their back – gossip – negative comments that have no redeeming value
- f. “drunkard” self-explanatory
- g. “swindler” to steal from another – many discreet ways to steal

V.12 For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church?

V.13 But *those who are outside, God judges*. REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM AMONG YOURSELVES.

- 1. “those who are outside, God judges”
  - a. God always deals w/ believers differently than the lost
  - b. He will judge them in time – in the future
  - c. The saved never get by w/ what the lost get by w/
  - d. The saved never find peace doing what the lost find peace doing
    - i. Leave the world's judgment in His hands

Summary:

- 1. A church has no choice but to keep sin out of its ranks – that means dealing w/ chronic sinning member
- 2. You nor I can't personally have fellowship w/ God w/ sin in your life – we can only pretend we have fellowship
- 3. Because we are inundated w/ the world's attitude – we must be on guard to not let the world tell you how to think
- 4. A believer cannot find happiness outside of a walk w/ God

\*Paul continues his corrective instructions to Corinth

**6:1** Does any one of you, when he has a case against his neighbor, *dare to go to law before the unrighteous* and not before the saints?

- 1. “dare to go to law before the unrighteous”
  - a. Paul continues to deal w/ immature, carnal church w/ it's upside down spiritual understanding
  - b. They were suing each other in court over civil matters

- c. We have dual citizenship
  - i. We are **first** citizens of heaven
  - ii. We are also citizens of the world & this country
  - iii. Scripture is clear that we are to balance those roles  
**Matthew 22:17**<sup>(Herodians)</sup> "Tell us then, what do You think?  
Is it lawful to give a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?"  
**V.19** "Show Me the coin *used* for the poll-tax." And they brought Him a denarius.  
<sup>20</sup> And He \*said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?"  
<sup>21</sup> They \*said to Him, "Caesar's." Then He \*said to them, "Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's."
- d. Human government & governmental law was established by God (dispensation of human government)  
**Genesis 9:5**<sup>(talking to Noah)</sup> "Surely I will require your lifeblood; from every beast I will require it. And from *every* man, from every man's brother I will require the life of man.  
<sup>6</sup> "Whoever sheds man's blood, **By man** his blood shall be shed, For in the image of God He made man.
- e. We are told that God ordained human government  
**Romans 13:1** (NASB) Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.
- f. God gave the purpose of government & we are to submit to it  
**1 Peter 2:13** Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority,  
<sup>14</sup> or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.  
<sup>15</sup> For such is the will of God that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men.  
 V.16 (NP)

<sup>16</sup> Act as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but *use it* as bondslaves of God.

<sup>17</sup> Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

a. "Act as free men"

i. There are times when we don't submit

**Acts 4:18** And when they<sup>(Sanhedrin)</sup> had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

<sup>19</sup> But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge;

<sup>20</sup> for we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard."

g. WE are to **use** the legal system for our benefit

h. He is not saying that a Christian shouldn't go to court

i. He is saying they shouldn't go to court against each other

j. Paul used the court system for his benefit

**Acts 25:9** But Festus, wishing to do the Jews a favor, answered Paul and said, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and stand trial before me on these *charges*?"

<sup>10</sup> But Paul said, "I am standing before Caesar's tribunal, where I ought to be tried. I have done no wrong to *the* Jews, as you also very well know.

<sup>11</sup> "If, then, I am a wrongdoer and have committed anything worthy of death, I do not refuse to die; but if none of those things is *true* of which these men accuse me, no one can hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar."

<sup>12</sup> Then when Festus had conferred with his council, he answered, "You have appealed to Caesar, to Caesar you shall go."

k. We are **not** always to be pacifist



**Acts 16:35**(after Paul & Syllas beaten & jailed) Now when day came, the chief magistrates sent their policemen, saying, "Release those men."

<sup>36</sup> And the jailer reported these words to Paul, *saying*, "The chief magistrates have sent to release you. Therefore come out now and go in peace."

<sup>37</sup> But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us in public without trial, men who are Romans, and have thrown us into prison; and now are they sending us away secretly? **No** indeed! But let them come themselves and bring us out."

<sup>38</sup> The policemen reported these words to the chief magistrates. They were afraid when they heard that they were Romans,

<sup>39</sup> and they came and appealed to them, and when they had brought them out, they kept begging them to leave the city.

<sup>40</sup> They went out of the prison and entered *the house of Lydia*, and when they saw the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

- I. There are the reasons why believers shouldn't take each other to court
  - i. #1 – We are going to judge the world someday **V.2**

V.2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts?

- 1. "do you not know that the saints will judge the world"
  - a. Do you realize how big of an event that will be?
    - i. We are going to rule & reign w/ Christ
  - b. We need to think BIG!!
  - c. If we are not careful we begin to think too small **V.2**

V.2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts?

- 1. "are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts"
  - a. That isn't very clear
    - i. The NIV & ESV have it easier to understand

**1 Corinthians 6:2** (NIV) Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases?

**1 Corinthians 6:2** (ESV) Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases?

Every believer should know what is a small matter in life & what is really important

Nothing here last very long

How big is your thinking? Is it on an eternal level?

**Ephesians 5:16** making the most of your time, because the days are evil.

<sup>17</sup> So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.



