

2018-09-30 - 1 Corinthians 5:1-13 - Put Away from Yourselves the Evil Person

Call to Worship: Psalm 45:1-2

Scripture Reading: Exodus 12:1-20

Sermon: "Put Away from Yourselves the Evil Person" 1 Corinthians 5:1-13

Benediction: Psalm 45:6

INTRODUCTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ was pleased to show mercy to the people of Greece, and so sent His apostle Paul, who traveled from Macedonia in the north all the way down to Achaia in the south, preaching the good news of forgiveness of sins in Jesus Christ. After preaching in Athens, he traveled down to Corinth. There he met two of his fellow Jews, Aquila and Priscilla, who became dear friends and fellow workers with him in the gospel. He knew their trade, tent-making, so he lived and worked with them while he preached the good news.

God granted Paul tremendous success in Corinth. First the man who lived next door to the synagogue was saved. Then the ruler of the synagogue himself believed on the Lord, with all his household. Many of the Corinthians, hearing the gospel, believed and were baptized. Then

Acts 18:9-11 Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; (10) for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city." (11) And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

After more than a year and a half of fruitful ministry in Corinth, Paul, along with Priscilla and Aquila, sailed away for Ephesus.

Some time later, a messenger from the church in Corinth found Paul during his travels. The news the messenger brought was not all good. Several serious problems had developed in the church since Paul had left. Paul wrote to the church, addressing these problems. That letter is our bible book 1 Corinthians.

One of the problems was that a man who was a member of the church, despite professing faith in Christ and coming to church on the Lord's Day, was living in sin, apparently unrepentant. Paul addressed that problem in what we now know as 1 Corinthians chapter 5.

I turn to this with you today because we have discovered a similar case in this church, and now have the painful duty of dealing with it. This matter is grief to us, but we also take joy and encouragement from the fact that our Lord has not left us without instruction. We turn now to that instruction, with an eye to obeying what our Lord Jesus has taught His church to do.

Before I begin the reading, let me clarify that although the sin in the case at Corinth was a kind of fornication or adultery, the sin we are dealing with here in this church is not. Please do not, by hearing fornication mentioned in this passage, assume that the man in this church has been found in that, which he has not.

TEXT

1 Corinthians 5:1-13

BODY

It is actually reported

ESV: actually Geneva: certainly KJV: commonly

RWP: actually

Ellicott: Better, "There is absolutely said to be fornication among you"

fornication [sexual immorality] among you Geneva, KJV: fornication

The case in Corinth was of a man who had some kind of illicit relationship with his father's wife.

But see that the instructions here would be the same if the sin was something else besides fornication.

1 Cor 5:10-11

-covetous ESV greedy

-extortioners ESV swindlers

-idolaters

-reviler KJV railer

-drunkard

In the case at hand in this church, we are dealing with a covetous man, whose conduct is that of an extortioner or swindler and a reviler or railer.

And you are puffed up ESV: arrogant

The members of the church had a high opinion of themselves as a church.

-speaking in tongues

-prophecy

-understanding of all mysteries and knowledge

-faith

-giving to the poor

and have not rather mourned ESV: Ought you not rather to mourn?

They have not instead mourned over the state of the church, that in it one of the members was living unrepentant in some kind of immorality.

In our case, this criticism can be laid primarily at the feet of the elders of the church, Mr. Sterzer and me. We first heard this report two years ago, in April of 2016, and did not recognize just how serious it was. Most of the other church members had no idea anything like this was going on.

But some have been mourning. Some of the worshipers in this church have indeed been mourning. Their participation in the fellowship of this church has been made a bittersweet thing, because they have known about the sinful conduct of this man, and have been mourning that he has not been removed, but has been able to continue in the church. It has been such grief to some people in the church that they have had a very hard time even coming to the assembly with him here.

that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you

ESV: Let him who has done this be removed from among you

Little by little, one by one, as we have come to understand what has been reported, we have come to mourn with them over this, and to see the church's duty to remove this man from among us.

1 Corinthians 5:3 For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed.

ESV: For though absent in body, I am present in spirit; and as if present, I have already pronounced judgment on the one who did such a thing.

The apostle could not be everywhere at once, but even though absent from Corinth, he already had judged what was to be done, as if he were there.

1 Corinthians 5:4-5 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, (5) deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

It has been controversial among Christians for centuries as to whether Paul here means that he will deliver the man over to Satan or that he is commanding the church to deliver the man over to Satan. Your translation might state it in a way that seems clear on that point, but the different translators see that differently. In some translations, it reads as something the church is to do, while in others it reads as something the apostle will do.

The old Baptist pastors that I read, like Gill and Carroll, are insistent that Paul is talking about what he, with the authority of an apostle, will do. Note what the apostle Peter did in the case of Ananias and Saphira, striking them dead, and of what Paul did in the case of Elymas the sorcerer, striking him blind. I think that what Paul wrote in 1 Timothy is decisive here, saying that not the church, but he himself had delivered men over to Satan.

1 Timothy 1:20 of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.

So I refrain from saying that we as a church should consider ourselves to be turning a man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh.

But this passage says repeatedly that we are to remove the man from among us.

-1 Cor 5:2b he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you

-1 Cor 5:11 But now I have written you not to keep company with ...

-1 Cor 5:13b Put away from yourselves the evil person.

When the church does that, puts a man away, out of the church, I believe this passage teaches us that the Lord delivers him over to Satan, for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

1 Corinthians 5:6 Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? ESV: boasting Geneva: rejoicing

The bible here explains this issue to us in the language of the old covenant passover, which is why we read about that a few minutes ago from Exodus 12.

1 Corinthians 5:7-8 Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. (8) Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

- I. first, the general metaphor of leaven as sin (5:7) “purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are leavened”
 - A. physical: dough that has been sitting out has become leavened; new dough has not become leavened
 - B. spiritual: church that has been exposed to the influence of the world has sin beginning to mix in with it
- II. second, the type of the OT passover ordinance fulfilled
 - A. (5:7b) Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed
 1. Exodus 12:5-7 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats. (6) Now you shall keep it until the **fourteenth day** of the same month. Then the whole

assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. (7) And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it.

2. Exodus 12:13 Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

B. (5:8a) Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven,

1. Exodus 12:18-20 In the first month, on the **fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day** of the month at evening. (19) For seven days no leaven shall be found in your houses, since whoever eats what is leavened, that same person shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is a stranger or a native of the land. (20) You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your dwellings you shall eat unleavened bread.' "

III. so you see that just as the passover was sacrificed, and then Israel removed all leaven from their homes, so as Christ has been sacrificed, so we are to remove all leaven from the church

A. removing malice and wickedness [ESV evil]

1. RWP vicious disposition and evil deed

B. so as to keep the feast with sincerity and truth

1. sincerity - JFB: The Greek for "sincerity" expresses literally, a thing which, when examined by the sun's light, is found pure and unadulterated.
2. truth - RWP: Greek *aletheia* literally "not hidden"
3. Clarke: with men
 - a) sincerity - who have such purity of affections and conduct, that even the light of God shining upon them discovers no flaw
 - b) truth - who are inwardly as well as outwardly what they profess to be

1 Corinthians 5:9-13 I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with fornicators ~~sexually immoral~~ people. (10) Yet I certainly did not mean with the fornicators ~~sexually immoral~~ people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. (11) But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is a fornicator ~~sexually immoral~~, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner--not even to eat with such a person. (12) For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? (13) But those who are outside God judges.

-covetous ESV greedy

Poole: all such as, out of their too great love of money, either scandalously sought to add to their heap, or to detain what was others' just due

Gill: greedily desirous of riches, of increasing their worldly substance by any method, right or wrong

This is one of the main aspects of the case in our church, that the man conducts business in ways that violate multiple state and federal laws on a daily basis, seeming to reject the concept that he must be content to make only what profit can be made within the law.

-extortioners ESV swindlers

Poole: such as exacted more than was their due of those under their power

Gill: who extort what is unreasonable by unlawful gain

This is one of the main aspects of the case in our church, that the man repeatedly tries to exact from his customers what they have no legitimate reason to pay him.

-idolaters

in the sense of worshiping idols, this was a problem in the churches, as you can see in many of the letters, but has not been mentioned in the case here in this church

-reviler KJV railer

Poole: such as used their tongues intemperately and scandalously

This is one of the main aspects of the case in our church, that the man is notorious for blowing up in fits of rage and reviling or railing against those around him.

-drunkard

of course a great problem all over the world, but not mentioned in the case here in this church

CONCLUSION

What, then, are we to do?

1 Cor 5:13b

Therefore "PUT AWAY FROM YOURSELVES THE EVIL PERSON."

ESV "Purge the evil person from among you."

The church elders, along with some of the witnesses to this man's sinful lifestyle and impenitence, spoke to the man three days ago, telling him we no longer welcome him in this church until such time as he shows true repentance.

You know I sent you a letter briefly explaining the situation late that night. Today the witnesses will testify very briefly nearer the end of this worship service.

This afternoon, after lunch, right back here in the sanctuary, the elders and witnesses will give a fuller version of their testimony and answer questions.

During this week, we invite all questions and discussions about the case.

Next Lord's Day, one week from today, we hope to put the matter to the church, urging the church officially to expel the person from the membership, and give the church opportunity to express its will on that.

“I’ve been going to church with this person for two years, and I didn’t see anything like what you are describing.”

-think of how many times the bible warns that the men who are a problem to the church are like that

-think how our Lord teaches us to handle matters in confidence if possible, without the matter being made public

-if deception had not been a big part of this problem, it would have been much easier to deal with

-elders had a hard time comprehending the gravity of the situation both times

Deuteronomy 17:7 G2532[CONJ] G3588[T-NSF] G5495[N-NSF] G3588[T-GPM]
G3144[N-GPM] G1510[V-FMI-3S] G1909[PREP] G846[D-DSM] G1722[PREP] G4413[A-DPM]
G2289[V-AAN] G846[D-ASM] G2532[CONJ] G3588[T-NSF] G5495[N-NSF] G3956[A-GSM]
G3588[T-GSM] G2992[N-GSM] G1909[PREP] [A-GPM] G2532[CONJ] G1808[V-FAI-2S]
G3588[T-ASM] G4190[A-ASM] G1537[PREP] G4771[P-GP] G846[D-GPM]

1 Corinthians 5:13 G3588 T-APM G1161 CONJ G1854 ADV G3588 T-NSM G2316 N-NSM
G2919 V-PAI-3S G2532 CONJ G1808 V-FAI-2P G3588 T-ASM G4190 A-ASM G1537 PREP
G4771 P-2GP G846 P-GPM

	1 Cor 5:13	Deu 17:7
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	G2532 and	G2532
	G1808 ye shall put out	G1808
	G3588 the	G3588
	G4190 wicked person	G4190
	G1537 <i>ex</i>	G1537
	G4771 your	G4771
	G846 selves	G846

This page for morning bible study class 2018-09-30

1 Timothy 5:18-21 For the Scripture says, "YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE AN OX WHILE IT TREADS OUT THE GRAIN," and, "THE LABORER IS WORTHY OF HIS WAGES." (19) Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from **two or three witnesses**. (20) Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, **that the rest also may fear**. (21) I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality.

1 Corinthians 5:13 But those who are outside God judges. Therefore "PUT AWAY FROM YOURSELVES THE EVIL PERSON."

All of these end with the same phrase as 1 Cor 5:13, word-for-word with the LXX

Deu 17:1-7 - served other gods

note verse 6 testimony of two or three witnesses

Deu 19:15-19 - testified falsely against his brother

Deu 22:13-21 - a bride found not to be a virgin

Deu 22:22-24 - a man and woman commit adultery

Deu 24:7 - a man is found kidnapping

Deuteronomy 19:20 And those who remain shall hear and fear, and hereafter they shall not again commit such evil among you.

Geneva: so thou shalt take the wicked away from among you.

19:19 so thou shalt take evil away forth of the middes of thee

22:21 so thou shalt put evil away from among you

22:24 so thou shalt put away evil from among you

24:7 so shalt thou put evil away from among you

KJV: So thou shalt put the evil away from among you.

24:7 and thou shalt put evil away from among you.

NKJV So you shall put away the evil from among you.

24:7 and you shall put away the evil from among you

ESV: So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

RWP:

By this quotation from Deu 17:7 Paul clinches the case for the expulsion of the offender.

railer G3060 *loidoros* Thayer: railer, reviler Strong: railer, reviler

verb G3058 *loidoreo*

Webster, railer: One who scoffs, insults, censures, or reproaches with opprobrious language
(opprobrious = reproachful and contemptuous)

Webster, reviler: One who reviles another; one who treats another with contemptuous language
(revile = to reproach, to treat with opprobrious and contemptuous language)

1 Cor 4:12 being reviled, we bless (G2127)

Prelude: Grace 162 "The Perfect Wisdom of Our God"

Camille: flute

Noah: trumpet - see attached in C

Anna: piano 1

Sarah: piano 2

Grace 158 "The Lily of the Valley"

Camille: flute

Noah: sing

Anna: piano 1

Sarah: piano 2

Trinity 421 "Rock of Ages"

Camille: piano 1

Noah: direct

Anna: sing

Sarah: piano 2

Trinity 580 "It Is Well with My Soul"

Camille: piano 1 - transpose

Noah: trumpet

Anna: clarinet

Sarah: sing

Trinity 268 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

Camille: piano 1

Noah: trumpet - see attached in C

Anna: sing

Sarah: piano 2

700 "Trust and Obey"