

Tolerance, Holiness, and Forgiveness

And Their Function Within The Church

I Corinthians 5

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1. WHAT WAS WRONG

A. Sin was Blatant and Unrepentant

I Corinthians 5:1 (ESV)-It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and a kind that is not tolerated even among the pagans, for a man has his father's wife.

B. Tolerance was Celebrated

I Corinthians 5:2 (ESV)-And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.

I Corinthians 5:6 (ESV)-Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?

2. WHAT NEEDED TO BE DONE

Blatant, Unconfessed, Unrepentant sin should be...

A. Removed by the Church

I Corinthians 5:2 (ESV)-And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.

"What we call grace is often a lack of grief over sin." -Bob Chambers

B. Judged by the Church

I Corinthians 5:3 (ESV)-For though absent in body, I am present in spirit; and as if present, I have already pronounced judgement on the one who did such a thing.

Matthew 7:1-5 (ESV)- Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgement you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother 'let me take the speck out of your eye' when there is a log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

C. Removed by the Church

I Corinthians 5:5 (ESV)-you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

Matthew 18:15-17 (ESV)-If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you a Gentile and a tax collector.

3. WHY IT NEEDED TO BE DONE

A. Opens the Door for Repentance

I Corinthians 5:5 (ESV)-you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

Unrepentant unconfessed sin and inner peace can never coexist!

I John 1:9 (ESV)-If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

B. Sin Is Not Solitary

I Corinthians 5:6 (ESV)-Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?

I Corinthians 12:12, 26 (ESV)-For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ...²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

Side Note: This is not an excuse to stay away from the world.

I Corinthians 5:9-10 (ESV)-I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people—not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since you would need to go out of the world.

Life Application Section

1. *We should grieve sin. (our own first)*
2. *We should deal with sin. (our own first)*
3. *We should love sinners. (ourselves included)*

Here Is The Point: Forgiveness and Inner Peace are only a confession away! members, and all the members of the body,