**COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM AND**

**BE YE SEPARATE , THUS SAITH THE LORD**

**SCRIPTURE READING…**

[**2 Corinthians 6:17**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Corinthians+6:17&version=KJV)Wherefore come out from among them, and **be** **ye** **separate**, saith the Lord, and **touch not the unclean thing**; and I will receive you.

**1 Tim. 5:2222**Lay hands suddenly on no man, **neither be partaker of other men's sins**: **keep thyself pure.**

**PRAYER**

**Intro.FOUR THINGS OUT OF THESE TWO SCRIPTURES THAT GOD’S SPIRIT CAUSED MY DEEPEST ATTENTION…ARE THE FOLLOWING….**

**The Scriptures call for us to……**

1. **“BE YE SEPARATE”**
2. **“TOUCH NOT THE UNCLEAN THING”**

 Explanation….

***What an absurdity it is to think of joining righteousness and unrighteousness, or mingling light and darkness, fire and water, together! Believers are, and should be, righteous; but unbelievers are unrighteous. Believers are made light in the Lord, but unbelievers are in darkness; and think about this….what comfortable communion can these have together? Beloved, Christ and Belial are contrary one to the other; they have opposite interests and designs, beloved, there should be no agreement between them .It is totally absurd, (2.)***

 ***It is a dishonour to the Christian’s profession (***[***2 Cor. 6:16***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2Cor.6.16)***); for Christians are by profession, and should be in reality, the temples of the living God—dedicated to, and employed for, the service of God, who has promised to reside in them, to dwell and walk in them, to stand in a special relation to them, and take a special care of them, that he will be their God and they shall be his people.***

***Beloved, there can be no agreement between the temple of God and idols. Idols are rivals with God for his honour, Beloved one thing we should never forget…God is a jealous God, and will not give his glory to another.***

***(3.) There is a great deal of danger in communicating with unbelievers and idolators, and we must be very cautious…***

***1.. danger of being defiled and of being rejected; therefore the exhortation is (***[***2 Cor. 6:17***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2Cor.6.17)***) Paul exhorts the Corinthians to come out from among them, and keep at a due distance, to be separate, as one would avoid being in contact with those who have the leprosy for fear of taking infection, and not to touch the unclean thing, lest we be defiled.***

***We must take care not to defile ourselves by associating with those who defile themselves with sin; so is the will of God, as we ever hope to be received, and not rejected, by him.***

1. **“NEITHER BE YE PARTAKERS OF OTHER MEN’S SINS”**
2. **“KEEP THYSELF PURE.”**

**Explanation….**

***We have great need to watch over ourselves at all times, that we do not make ourselves partakers of other men’s sins. The Bible exhorts us to “Keep thyself pure, not only from doing the same as sinners, but from partaking in it, or being any way accessary to it, in others.” 2. Those who are rash, either in the one case or the other, will make themselves partakers in other men’s sins. 3. We must keep this is not only an advice it is a direct command from God..keep ourselves pure, if we will be pure; the grace of God makes and keeps us pure, but it is by our own endeavours.***

**Beloved we are living in a lifetime that “SIN” is running rampant in the world and many of God’s children are being affected by it. The reason for this is because “Sin” is like leaven (yeast) and a form of a dreaded disease called leprosy. It spreads and brings calamity to all who get touched by it.**

**Beloved in order for us to neutralize and contain the power of sin,…**

**Here is what the bible says….We must help one another…..**

**Heb. 3:13 13But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.**

**Beloved the word of God is exhorting us that we need to always encourage one another and be in touch with one another in order to keep the deceitfulness of sin away from us….when we are together is easy to stay clean but when we are away from one another some become vulnerable and easy prey for the devil.**

**The reason for this is because….**

1. **Sin is blinding and deceitful in its nature. In other words, Sin when it enters the mind and the life of an individual it takes on a course all of its own!!**

 **Also we must know and understand that….**

1. **Satan has many devices which he uses in order to deceive God’s children and Paul wrote the following to the Corinthians….**

2 Cor. 11:3 3But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtly, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

He also wrote….

2 Cor 2:1111Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Beloved Satan would love nothing better than to get two to agree in his evil deception and corruption!

So we need to be wise and not share in sinful manners with one another……

 **B. Let's look at some of the easy ways in which people, and even christians can share in each other's Sins if we are not careful….**

1. **Many Christian need to be careful that they do not**

 **COMMIT A SIN TOGETHER.**

**Over In the book of ACTS there IS A STORY OF A MARRIED**

 **COUPLE WHO AGREED TOGETHER AND PARTICIPATED IN A GREVIOUS SIN….**

***Acts 5:7-9 5 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,2And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.3But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?4Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.5And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things.6And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him.7And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in.8And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much.9Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out.***

***Two things we need to understand out of this are the following……***

1. Annanias and Sapphira **agreed** with each other in their sin.
2. Their sin was exposed by the Holy Spirit!

 1. Beloved listen, there are some persons even in church who will try to persuade Gods very elect to be involved in a wrong. But the book of proverbs tells us the following…………..

***Prov. 1:10-19 10My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.11If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause:12Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit:13We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:14Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse:15My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:16For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.17Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.18And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives.19So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof.***

 B. This world is full of sinners, and we must be careful to not be

 partakers with them.

***Eph. 5:6-7 6Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience****.7****Be not ye therefore partakers with them.***

***Phone call from NY for 9000.00 dollars!!***

There is also some people who…

1. **DON'T ACTUALLY COMMIT THE SIN, BUT CONSENT WITH THOSE WHO DO.**
2. As in the case of Saul of Tarsus who partook of the following…

 ***Acts 7:55-58; 55But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,56And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.57Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,58And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.***

Saul actually gave consent to Stephen's death.

 B. Some may not actually be engaged in a particular evil, yet

 they endorse those who do it.

1. Another example: some don't drink, but have an argument for it out

of the Bible!!!!

Ex. Some twist scriptures to satisfy their ways….

**1 Tim. 5:*2323Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.***

 ***Manischewitz kosher wine, Gallo wine, Table wine, they all contain alcohol !!!!!!***

 a. This does much harm to those who are having a real

 problem with it. If wrongly interpreted it can give some a

 license to continue in their error and in their wickedness!!

***I mean who’s fooling who!!!!***

 b. I heard once that Grape juice works good for a nervous stomach.

Not long ago a minister informed me that at a group of deacons and ministers got together a one of the board members and some had beer and other alcoholic beverages present.

I once went along with a couple of men both pastors, to minister to a sister in the Lord who was having some mental problems as we drove and got there one of the pastors asked me to go with him while the other pastor stayed till we got back. The pastor that I accompanied stopped the car and asked me to stay in the car till he came back out…He went into a liquor store and came out with a bottle of rum. We got back to the house and they served 4 drinks 1 for the lady 1 for each pastor and one for me…I immediately told them I would not have anything to do with this and went outside of the house….and after maybe 35 or 40 minutes they came out and we left.

Here’s another case scenario…

1. **SOME IN THE CHURCH KNOW ANOTHER'S GUILT, BUT FAIL TO REBUKE AND EXPOSE THEM TO THE TRUTH OF GOD’S WORD but rather HIDE IT ALTOGETHER.**

**BELOVED THIS IS VERY SERIOUS AND MOST IMPORTANT……Listen up…..**

 A. **All that is needed for evil to prosper is for good people to do**

 **Nothing about it…AT ALL!! BELOVED WE ARE ALL ON ASSIGNMENT!!!!**

**.**

1. ***Ezekial's major responsibility as a Watchman…..***

***Eze. 3:17-21 17Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.18When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.19Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.20Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling-block before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand.21Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.***

***This is saying to us that God expects us to watch each others back!!!***

ANOTHER IMPORTANT INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITY….BUT FAILED TO LIVE UP TO THEM WAS…..ELI

1. Eli's responsibility BEFORE GOD WAS MET WITH STRONG WORDS FROM GOD!!!.

**1 Sam. 3:13; 13For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.**

1. BELOVED, Many Christians know that error is being taught in a church, but often times keep quiet. They often see things that are sinful, but never rebuke.
2. There are many ways to make yourself be heard.

**THE BIBLE SAYS….**

**Eph. 5:11 11And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.**

**1 Tim. 5:20; 20Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.**

**2 Tim. 4:2Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.**

1. Churches sometimes refuse to withdraw from the disorderly.

***Here’s an admonishment from the word of God…..to the whole congregation….***

**Thess. 3:6 6Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.**

**V. BY EXAMPLE AND INFLUENCE.**

 A. There are Some people who love to encourage the wicked.

***Ezek. 13:22 22Because with lies ye have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad; and strengthened the hands of the wicked, that he should not return from his wicked way, by promising him life***:

Sometimes beloved,

1. Wives and Husbands encourage each other to do wrong it may be

something minor….but in the eyes of God wrong is wrong….

 B. It is very easy, because it is human nature, to defend a loved

 one. However, if that loved one is guilty of sin, we dare not

 condone them in it.

 1. It is easy to assume that my son or daughter has been

 falsely accused, but the bottom line is they were actually wrong in

 their doing!!!

NO WAY JOSE, NOT MY SON, NOT MY DAUGHTER…ITS ALL SELF DENIAL!!!!!!!

**VI. A CHUCH AS A WHOLE CAN BE IN SIN BY ENDORSING THE WRONG KIND OF LEADERS.**

***JEREMIAH THE PROPHET SAW A HORRIBLE THING TAKE PLACE IN JERUSALEM….***

***Jer.23:14… 14I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness; they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah.***

1. There is a good possibility that the words of our text

(1 Tim. 5:17-22) ***“lay hands suddenly on no man”*** has specific reference to the appointment of men to be elders **who don't deserve such.**

 B. Many lack courage to stand up to sinful leaders.

**VII. TEACHING OR SUPPORTING THE DOCTRINES THAT COME FROM MEN.**

 **A. If someone who lived years ago, and from his own devising, taught**

 **a false doctrine and I begin to teach it, I am actually partaking in**

 **his sin. As a minister of God’s word, it is important that we get our**

 **word from the “Spirit of God” and not other men!!!**

**VIII. REMEMBER, THERE IS A FLIP SIDE TO THIS PRINCIPLE.**

 A. In other words, "be not partakers with the wicked," but "be

 partakers with the righteous."

**I’LL CLOSE ON THE WORDS OF OUR LORD,**

***Matt. 10:40-42; 40He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.41He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.42And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.***