

I. Introduction: Paul called the church at Corinth to take action against a sinning brother who had an incestuous relationship with his step mother, before it affected the church.

- A. God's greatest concern for His church is that it is holy, as He is holy (**1 Peter 1:16**). Once sin enters the body of Christ, it brings disastrous affects upon everyone.

II. Sexual Sin in the Church (1 Cor 5:1-13).

A. Confront the Sinner (**vv. 1-2**).

1. Paul called for the Corinthians to confront the sinning brother and mourn for his sin, because it would lead them away from Jesus and corrupt their church.

B. Judge the Sinner (**vv. 3-5**).

1. Paul told the church that the judgment against this person was already decided and that they were to turn him over to Satan until he repented of his sin.

C. Remove the Sinner (**vv. 6-8**).

1. Paul said that the sinning person needed to be removed to preserve the holiness of the church, because he would influence others to sin by his wicked example.

D. Separate the Sinner (**vv. 9-13**).

1. Paul told the Corinthians not to associate with any person who claimed to be a Christian and was living in sin, and not to avoid the world, who needed Jesus.

III. Conclusion: Paul told the Corinthians to remove the continually sinning brother from their church until he was repentant, so that he might come to saving faith.

Questions About: Sexual Sin in the Church

1. How dangerous is sexual sin to you? How do you respond to it? What do we do when there's sexual sin in the church? What is your responsibility according to Jesus? (**Matt 18:15-20**)
2. What was the report Paul was getting about sexual sin in Corinth? (**1 Cor 5:1-2**) How was this excessive even for Corinth? (**v. 1**) How did Paul say they should have responded? (**v. 2**)
3. Instead of mourning, how were they acting? (**1 Cor 5:1-2**) Why were they arrogant? What did Paul say they needed to do? (**v. 2**) Why did Paul say this was the right course of action?
4. How had Paul already judged this person? (**1 Cor 5:3-5**) By whose authority did Paul say they were to judge him? (**v. 4**) What does it mean to "deliver him to Satan"? (**vv. 2, 5, 7, 13**)
5. What was the analogy that Paul used to describe this person's influence? (**1 Cor 5:6-8**) How does leaven change dough? (**v. 6; Ex 12:39**) How was Paul warning them about sin? (**v. 6**)
6. What was the connection with leaven in the Exodus? (**Ex 12:39; 13:3,7**) How is Jesus the Passover lamb? (**v. 7; John 1:29**) What are we to be leavened with? (**v. 8**)
7. What was the principle that Paul gave about associating with sinners? (**1 Cor 5:9-13**) What did he mean by a "so called" brother? (**v. 11**) What other sins did he mention? (**v. 11**)
8. Why are Christians not to judge the world? (**1 Cor 5:12-13**) Who are Christians supposed to judge? (**v. 12**) Do you know any believer living in sin? What is your responsibility?

Prayer

1. Pray that God would help us to love the church and to make it a place that is holy.
2. Pray that God would help us to be a light to those around us who are steeped in sexual sin.