

1 Cor 5:1-13 Bible Study

1. Why should the Corinthians have been “filled with grief”?
 - Name of Jesus dishonoured, • Man is unrepentant, • They are indifferent / inactive

2. Contrast vv1-5 with Lev 18:7-8, 20:11. How does this help us understand how to apply the Old Testament today?

Man expelled not stoned. Moral standards of God’s people are the same, but discipline is different. Israel was a physical expression of God’s Kingdom. Christians belong spiritually (we not physically there yet), so discipline is to direct us to repentance and return to the community as expression that we are not excluded from God’s kingdom. We are to put to death the old nature, not the physical body!

3. a. Read through the passage again noting the words that Paul uses to describe what is to be done to the man. (v2 ‘put out of fellowship’; v5 ‘hand him over to Satan’; v7 ‘get rid of old yeast’; v9,11 ‘don’t associate’; v11 ‘don’t eat with’; v13 ‘expel’)

- b. Are Paul’s directions too harsh?

Try putting real faces and situations to this! This is certainly drastic action, perhaps why the Corinthians had done nothing.

- c. How might we put this into practice (keeping in mind the goal of v5)?

(Perhaps read Matt 18:15-20; different context but a method of approaching Christians who sin)

4. Read 3:16-17. How does this help explain Paul’s concern in chapter 5? Do we share his concern?

Our church could be destroyed and the man lose his salvation.

5. What does the image of vv6-8 mean? How will we work this out in our lives?

(Perhaps read Col 3:5-17 if you have time)

6. What would the sins of v11 look like in Christians? How can we know / decide when to break fellowship over it?

7. Why do we find it so difficult to correct and rebuke each other? What can we do to change this?