

THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD IT LIVES IN
I COR. 5:9-13

Introduction:

- A. Jesus left the church in the world.
 - 1. John 17:11-26. (v16)
 - 2. If He hadn't we couldn't function. Matt. 28:18-20.

- B. The Corinthian church was in the world.
 - 1. "church of God....at Corinth."
 - 2. It was where it should be.

- C. How were these people to live in the world?
 - 1. What would their relationship be to the world?
 - 2. What can they do about sin and sinners?

I. PAUL'S EARLIER LETTER. V9

- A. "I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators."
 - 1. company = sunerchomai - to come or go with anyone, to accompany; to come together, to convene.
 - 2. I wrote you earlier to stop associating with sexually immoral people.
 - 3. Paul's earlier warning was misunderstood. They did not apply it to the church but to the world.

- B. "yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world."
 - 1. I did not mean that you could not have some contact with the fornicators of this world.
 - 2. Paul did not intend for them to shun the fornicators of this world anymore than he did for them to shun others who commit different sins.
 - 3. "or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters."
 - a. covetous = pgeonektes - one who would have more. A defrauder for gain.

- b. extortioner = arpak - plundering, pillage, seize, of wild beasts, ravenous, rapacious.
- c. idolaters = eidoloatres = idol worshipper.
- 4. "for then must ye go out of the world."
 - a. To do this you would need to get out of human society altogether.

II. PAUL MAKES HIS MEANING PLAIN. V11-13

- A. "but now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator."
 - 1. company = sunanamignumi - to mingle together with, keep company with.
 - 2. kletos = called, invited, welcome, invited.
 - a. Anyone who calls himself a Christian and yet lives in sexual sins.
- B. "or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner."
 - 1. covetous = a defrauder for gain.
 - 2. idolater = idol worshipper.
 - 3. railer = loidoros - abusive, reviler.
 - 4. extortioner = ravenous, (spoken of wild beasts) Matt. 7:15.
- C. "with such an one no not to eat."
 - 1. With such an one you must even stop eating.
 - 2. This is a prohibition that most likely involves the Lord's Supper.

III. WHAT ABOUT THE FORNICATORS WHO ARE NOT CHURCH MEMBERS?

- A. "For what have I to do to judge them also that are without?"
 - 1. judge = he who decides, a judge, an umpire, a presiding judge.
 - 2. without = outside the doors.
 - 3. What business of mine is it to judge outsiders?

page 47

- B. "do not ye judge them that are within?"
 1. within = on the inside.
 2. But surely it is your business to judge those who are inside the church.

- C. "But them that are without, God judgeth."
 1. without the church, on the outside of the church, non-members.
 2. We have no control over their lives.

- D. "Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person."
 1. The church knew of the sin.
 2. The sin and the sinner is well known.
 3. The church is "leavened" by its presence.
 4. The church should judge its members.
 5. The church purge itself.
 6. This "purging" is not God's work, but ours.

IV. WE STAND WHERE THEY STOOD.

- A. The commission is to go into the world, not withdraw from it.

