

1 Corinthians 5 and Church Discipline 04-24-22

I. Introduction

A. A Body sick with Cancer

1. It infects other systems
2. It can cause the body to die

B. Sin in the body of Christ is like a tumor

1. One man's sin in the camp cause Israel to lose battles

Josh 7:1 But the children of Israel committed a trespass regarding the accursed things, for Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed things; so the anger of the LORD burned against the children of Israel.

2. Those who partook unworthily of communion impacted others

1 Cor 11:29 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.30 For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.

C. Discussing Discipline in the church:

1. When we need it, it is too late to teach about it

II. Understanding Discipline

A. What is discipline

1. The Nature of Sin:

a. Public Sin, which requires:

- (1) A public rebuke

1Ti 5:19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses. 20 Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear.

- (2) A public repentance

b. Private Sin, which requires:

- (1) Initially, a private rebuke
- (2) Matthew 18 speaks to this issue

c. Two patterns of church discipline with sin

- (1) In the private sin context, it is brought to the church slowly
- (2) in the public sin context, it is brought out immediately

1 Cor 5:1 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles--that a man has his father's wife!.....3 For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed. 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

2. Discipline is the rebuke of sin

a. It is the admonishment of one in error

1Th 5:14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.

- (1) In Greek, Admonish means a gentle warning

2Ti 2:25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,

b. It is the repeated correction of one who stumbles

Gal 6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

c. It is the rejection of error and those who refuse to repent

Tit 1:13 This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, 14 not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth.

d. Rejection of those who refuse to repent

2Th 3:6 But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us.

2Th 3:14 And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. 15 Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

Tit 1:13 This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, 14 not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth.

(1) It is the work of the whole body, not just the elders or leaders

(2) The whole body is responsible/accountable for taught error

(a) Rev 2:14, Pergamos

(3) The whole body is responsible for one member who is in sin –

(4) It is done by removing the benefits of fellowship

(5) Does not break the bonds that exist, such as family, work, etc

(6) Cannot provide the benefits of fellowship

B. Why We Must Do it

1. For the restoration of a brother – Matthew 18

2. For the termination of error –

a. For one who causes division -

Tit 3:9 But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless. 10 Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, 11 knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned.

Ro 16:17 Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. 18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

b. For one who teaches falsely - Gal 2:9-21

2 John 1:10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; 11 for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.

c. For one who teaches falsely by their conduct

Gal 2:11 Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; 12 for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. 13 And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy. 14 But when I saw that they were not

straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?"

3. For the preservation of the congregation

C. What Discipline is not

1. It is not punishment for sin
2. It is correction

E. Being admonished

1. We all will need correction – Rom 3:23.
2. It can be general (as from the pulpit) or specific (as from the church or a brother)
 - a. Will you receive it with humility? Consider Prov 12:15; it is everyone's to receive at some time
 - b. Will you receive it with gratitude? Consider the love behind it
 - c. Will you receive it with fear? Consider Simon the Sorcerer, people of Acts 2:37