

SIN IN THE CHURCH AND HOW TO DEAL WITH IT
I COR. 5:1-8

Introduction:

- A. Does everyone sin?
 - 1. Yes!
 - 2. "For all have sinned and come short....."

- B. Do saved, baptized persons sin?
 - 1. Yes! "If we say that we have no sin...."
 - 2. The flesh is the same.

- C. Is every sin the same?
 - 1. No!
 - 2. Some sins involve one, others many.

- D. When and how should a church deal with sin?
 - 1. Some sins we don't know about and shouldn't.
 - 2. Some sins involve the church as a body.

I. THE SIN. Via

- A. "Its reported commonly that there is fornication among you."
 - 1. It was a well known sin.
 - 2. reported = akouo - to hear, to learn by hearing, not hearsay.
 - 3. commonly = holo - everywhere, generally.
 - 4. The sin was a well known fact.

- B. It was an uncommon sin. vib "and such...."
 - 1. fornication = porneia - human sexual intercourse other than between a man and his wife.
 - 2. adultery = moicheia - sexual intercourse between a married man and someone other than his wife; sexual intercourse between a married woman and someone other than her husband.

3. Either sin is condemned by God's Word!
4. This was sexual intercourse between a male member of the Corinthian church and his step-mother.

II. THE CHURCH'S ATTITUDE AND ACTION. V2

- A. "And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned."
 1. puffed up = phusioo, to blow, to inflate, pant.
 2. "and ye are arrogant."
 3. mourned = pentheo - to bewail, lament, mourn for, esp., for one dead.
 4. Sin by a member should create mourning, as death.
- B. "that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you."
 1. The man that hath done this deed should be expelled from your fellowship.
 2. Why? The entire body is suffering.

III. PAUL'S JUDGMENT. V3-5

- A. Paul could make a judgment.
 1. "for I, verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were there"
 2. For my part, I am present with you in spirit even though I am absent from you in body.
 3. And my judgment is already given.
 - a. judgment = to come to a decision.
- B. Paul's decision. v4
 1. "In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."
 - a. By the authority of our Lord Jesus.
 2. "when ye are gathered together."
 - a. When you are come together.
 3. "and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus."
 - a. I will participate in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus will be with you.

4. "to deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh."
 - a. destruction = holethros - ruin, death; that which causes death.
 - b. That man should be left to the mercy of Satan so that while his body will experience the destructive powers of sin.
5. "that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus."
 - a. The spirit will be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

C. This was not to be a long process.

1. Not to apply Matt. 18:15-17.
2. The church has authority! Matt. 18:18-20.
3. Not the deacons job, but the churches.

IV. WHY SHOULD THE MAN BE EXCLUDED? V6-8

A. The whole lump will be leavened. v6

1. "your glorying is not good."
 - a. Your boastful attitude is unseemly.
 - b. Perhaps the church gloried in their power not to be hurt by this man's presence.

B. "know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?" Gal. 5:9.

1. Sin is a living organism.
2. Sin is a deadly influence, this man won't get better, the church will get worse.
3. The leaven leavens the lump, the lump never purifies the leaven!

V. HOW TO DEAL WITH LEAVEN. V7-8

A. "purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened."

1. purge = kathairo - to cleanse from filth, grain by winnowing, trees by pruning.
2. So that you may be as a lump of new dough.

B. "for even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us."

1. Christ is our Passover lamb.
2. You are the bread, the church is the bread!

C. "Therefore, let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."

1. Let us therefore celebrate the Passover.
 - a. Let us keep the Passover. Christ is the lamb, we are the bread, but if the bread is leavened, we cannot keep it!
2. "not with old leaven."
 - a. old = palaios - having existed a long time.
 - b. Perhaps the remnants of dough left in the kneading trough.
3. Not with "new leaven."
 - a. "neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness."
 - b. malice = kakia - every form of evil, physical & moral. It is evil habit flowing from "poneria."
 - b. wickedness - poneria - evil nature.
4. "but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."
 - a. sincerity = clearness, pureness, genuineness, (judged in the light).
 - b. aletheia = the revealed reality of a matter.