

SEPARATION IS STILL GOD'S WAY

Pastor's Wednesday Night Bible Study

February 17, 2010

1Pe 2:9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him **who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:**

1Pe 2:10 Which in time past *were* not a people, but *are* now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

1Pe 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

Who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light – “*Who hath called you out of darkness.*” Darkness is the emblem of ignorance, sin, and misery, and refers here to their condition before their conversion; light is the emblem of the opposite, and is a beautiful representation of the state of those who are brought to the knowledge of the gospel. The word marvelous means wonderful;

1. **Separation is a privilege**, for we represent the highest calling and institution on the face of the earth, the Church of the living God.
2. **The call to come out and be separate is the Lord's doing not mans idea, or an organizational dogma.**
3. **In the very act of creation, God established the Principle of Separation**, when he separated the light from darkness. “The Lord through the gospel has brought us out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

Gen 1:3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

Gen 1:4 And God saw the light, that *it was* good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

Gen 1:5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

2Cor. 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

2Cor. 6:15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

2Cor. 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

2Cor. 6:17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, **saith the Lord**, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you.

2Co 6:18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:

(Trans.) Stop forming intimate and inconsistent relations with unbelievers. “Avoid unsuitable connections with unbelievers.”

What concord hath Christ with Belial? Belial, a heathen god like Beelzebub, is used as a synonym for Satan. See [Mat 12:24](#). As Christ has nothing in common with Satan, how can a believer in him have a close intimacy with one who is still under the dominion of the prince of this world?

What agreement hath the temple of God with idols? As God's temple has nothing in common with the idol temple, so the saints are to be separated from idolators.

For ye are the temple of the living God. The Christian is himself the sanctuary of the Lord, as is proved by the passage quoted from [Lev 26:12](#). God dwells in his people as the Shekinah dwelt between the cherubim.

Lev 26:11 And I will set my tabernacle among you: and my soul shall not abhor you.

Lev 26:12 And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.

Lev 26:13 *I am* the LORD your God, which brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, that ye should not be their bondmen; and I have broken the bands of your yoke, and made you go upright.

THE SCRIPTURE BRINGS A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF GOD'S DESIRE TO HAVE A SEPARATE PEOPLE

1. **From the moment that God determined to have a special people that He designated as his very own.** He instituted the principle of separation. His people were to be holy – in essence, a “Kingdom of priests” “**And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel**” (Ex. 19:6).

2. **They were to be different from the heathen around them in their worship, their character, their dress and their customs.**

Exo 33:16 “... so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that *are* upon the face of the earth.”

Lev 20:26 And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD *am* holy, and have severed you from *other* people, that ye should be mine.

3. **They shall not be reckoned among the nations:**

Num 23:9 For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I behold him: lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.

4. **They shall make no covenant with the pagan orders of their day:**

Deut. 7:2 And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, *and* utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor show mercy unto them:

Judges 2:2 And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this?

5. **In was in Noah's day that intermingling with the unrighteous seed caused judgments.** The godly line of Seth, begin to intermarry with the daughters of men, the line of Cain. These spiritually mixed marriages brought about the Judgment on the whole earth.

Gen 6:1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

Gen 6:2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they *were* fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

Gen 6:3 And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also *is* flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

6. **The Doctrine of Balaam:**

2Pe 2:15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam *the son* of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

(1) In being professed religious teachers, or the servants of God;

(2) In their covetousness;

(3) In inducing others to sin, referring to the same kind of sins in both cases.

Balaam counselled the Moabites to entice the children of Israel to illicit connection with their women, thus introducing licentiousness into the camp of the Hebrews; and in like manner these teachers led others into licentiousness, thus corrupting the church.

Num 31:16 Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD in the matter of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the LORD.

7. **Abraham is a classic example of God calling us to separation:** At the beginning of the Hebrew nation God spoke to Abraham of Ur to leave his home and family and go into a land that the Lord would show him. Promising that his descendants would inherit the land where he walked.

Gen 12:1 “Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee:

Gen 12:2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

Gen 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.”

8. **Genesis 12:1**, is the beginning of the idea of separation from all elements that would constitute a spiritual hindrance. Abraham did not fully obey the voice of the Lord of separation; however, He took with him his father, Terah, and his nephew, Lot, which created problems.

(Terah and Lot became a spiritual hindrances to Abraham and his God called promise).

9. **When God calls us to come out of our environment of circle of friends, our religion, or lifestyle – we had better do exactly as He says!** We must leave behind any habit, or relationship which would constitute a weight to us in our walk with God.

Hebrews 12:1 “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.”

(Weight doesn't have to be sin – but anything that we over indulge in and causes us to be distracted and out of spiritual balance.)

10. **The Church is a called out body of believers who are separated from their sins and separated unto God for his service.**

2 Timothy 1:9 “Who hath saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.”

1Peter 2:9 “But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath **called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.**”

THE FOUR COMPROMISES OF PHARAOH

1. Moses was sent by the Lord to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. They could not worship properly in the bondage of a heathen nation. When Moses told Pharaoh to let my people go...” Pharaoh offered four compromises to Moses.
2. After you receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and have been baptized in Jesus Name. Satan and his forces don't want you to completely come out of Egypt; he wants to keep you as close to the world as possible, not making a complete break away from your former lifestyle and associates.

COMPROMISE NUMBER ONE

1. **Worship God in the Land:** (Exodus 8:25-27)

Exo 8:25 “And Pharaoh called for Moses and for Aaron, and said, Go ye, sacrifice to your God in the land.

Exo 8:26 And Moses said, It is not meet so to do; for we shall sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians to the LORD our God:

lo, shall we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, and will they not stone us?

Exo 8:27 We will go three days' journey into the wilderness, and sacrifice to the LORD our God, as he shall command us.”

- a. The idea of the Israelites staying and worshipping in Egypt was totally unacceptable. The devil would like to make us think we can stay in close fellowship with elements of the world and live a carnal lifestyle and still offer acceptable worship to a Holy God.

Psalm 137:4 How shall we sing the LORD's song in a strange land?

- b. **Christianity is not merely “putting on Christ” over the dirty clothes of our past life.** There must be a “putting off” of the works of the flesh before we can walk in the Spirit. We can not live in the flesh and worship in the Spirit.

Colossians 1:11 “Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;”

Romans 8:1 “*There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”

COMPROMISE NUMBER TWO

1. **Compromise Number Two:** “**Go...only ye shall not go very far away**” (Exodus 8:28)

Exo 8:28 “And Pharaoh said, I will let you go, that ye may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; **only ye shall not go very far away:** entreat for me.”

- a. **Don’t get to far out of reach,** stay in touch. Don’t cut all your ties, don’t burn your bridges have a few just in case clothes and other items from your past life hid away hanging around. Don’t destroy everything that would rob you of a clean cut from Egypt.

- b. **Trying to live for God with one foot in the world and one foot in the church.** I heard a story of a little boy that kept falling out of bed. When he was asked why, he replied: I guess it's because I stay too close to the place where I got in! We will "**Fall Out**" too if we stay too close to our former philosophies, friends, and old life style.

COMPROMISE NUMBER THREE

1. **Pharaoh bargaining for the Israelites Children**
(Exodus 10:7-11)

Exo 10:7 "And Pharaoh's servants said unto him, How long shall this man be a snare unto us? let the men go, that they may serve the LORD their God: knowest thou not yet that Egypt is destroyed?"

Exo 10:8 And Moses and Aaron were brought again unto Pharaoh: and he said unto them, Go, serve the LORD your God: *but who are they that shall go?*

Exo 10:9 And Moses said, We will go with our young and with our old, with our sons and with our daughters, with our flocks and with our herds will we go; for we *must hold* a feast unto the LORD.

Exo 10:10 And he said unto them, Let the LORD be so with you, as I will let you go, and your little ones: *look to it*; for evil is before you."

- a. The older folks could leave, but let the children stay, He figured on raising a new generation of slaves.
- b. Satan would like to put the same pressures on our modern Pentecostal Parents: He will try to convince you to serve God by yourself, don't try to indoctrinate your children but let them choose for themselves. Don't require them to be faithful to church.

COMPROMISE NUMBER FOUR

1. **Compromise Number Four**: The possessions of their herds and flocks left behind.

Exo 10:24 “And Pharaoh called unto Moses, and said, Go ye, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be stayed: let your little ones also go with you.”

- a. **Pharaoh was trying to salvage something out of the deal!**
- b. **The things that pharaoh was now bargaining for was connected to their worship**, their (Flocks and their herds). He wanted to take their sacrifices that would keep them out of touch with God.
- c. **But Moses was adamant**: He was not willing to compromise, not even one hoof left in Egypt.

Exo 10:26 “Our cattle also shall go with us; there shall not a hoof be left behind; for thereof must we take to serve the LORD our God; and we know not with what we must serve the LORD, until we come thither.”

- d. **God was pleased with the stand that Moses made, backing up their commitment with a might display of power and supernatural deliverance.**

WE MUST HAVE THE SAME FIGHT THAT MOSES HAD; HE TOLD PHARAOH THAT HE WOULD NOT LEAVE ONE THING BEHIND IN EGYPT TO GO BACK TO. WHEN YOU LEAVE EGYPT, LEAVE IT FOREVER.