

# Unholy Fellowship

Pastor Nick Bibile

## *Ephesians 5:7-13*

*7 Therefore do not associate with them; 8 for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. 13 But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible.*

We are pilgrims here on earth; our true citizenship is not of this earth but of heaven. But here on this earth we are to occupy until our Lord returns. As pilgrims we are taking a different road than the people of the world. The people of the world is taking the broad road according to their feelings, emotions and temptations, this road leads to destructions but the pilgrims take the narrow road which leads to life. There are warning signs to the pilgrims' one of them is that we need to avoid unholy fellowship.

## *7 Therefore do not associate with them*

Unholy fellowship is having fellowship with unbelievers. You can be friends with them but do not have an intimate fellowship with them.

Why God does not want the true born again Christian to have an unholy fellowship with the unbelievers?

Deut 22:10 Do not plow with an ox and a donkey yoked together.

2 Cor 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

15 What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? 16 What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

“I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them,  
and I will be their God,  
and they shall be my people.

17 Therefore go out from their midst,  
and be separate from them, says the Lord,  
and touch no unclean thing;  
then I will welcome you,  
18 and I will be a father to you,  
and you shall be sons and daughters to me,  
says the Lord Almighty.”

In the Old Testament God warned Israel and Judah repeatedly not to marry women of other nations and to have any treaties with them. The reason is the same as they would be influenced by their idolatry. However they did not listened to God’s word and God chastised them over and over again.

Deut 6: 14 You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you, 15 for the Lord your God in your midst is a jealous God, lest the anger of the Lord your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.

16 “You shall not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah.  
17 You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you. 18 And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may go well with you, and that you may go in and take possession of the good land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers

*Verse 8 for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.*

Here the apostle brings to remembrance our days before conversion. Darkness means before you were born again. You were living in sin according to your passions, the Light means when you heard the gospel you were enlightened with the light of God’s word and God’s word saved you from God’s wrath. You are rescued from the dominion of Satan who is the prince of darkness to the marvelous light of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and we are in his kingdom.

Isaiah 9: 2 The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shined.

Salvation is of the Lord

Psalm 18:28 For it is you who light my lamp;  
the Lord my God lightens my darkness.

1 Pet 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

The spirit of God is in us and we need to live as true Christians and not as unbelievers.

1 John 2:29 If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

Satan always tempts us to come to the edge of the cliff. The flower at the edge of the cliff always looks beautiful. He shows the glories and the splendor of this world. The vines of Sodom and the fields of Gomorrah looks pleasing to the eye and Lot was deceived by the looks of the sweetness of sin as he walked by sight not by faith, the sweetness of sin is going to be a cup of damnation as God poured out his wrath on Sodom and Gomorrah.

Before our conversion we drank the sweetness of sin and we enjoyed the cup of pleasure. We saw all the worldly movies and enjoyed the worldly amusements and now we have tasted the sweetness of Christ our blessed Savior how can we go back to our old life style? Like a dog he will return to his vomit again?

***Back to Ephesians Verse 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).***

The result of our salvation is good works, there will be good fruits, and we will be godly. Vegetation cannot survive without the sun; sun is needed for the plants to grow and to bear fruits. In the same way God is called the Light.

1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

And when we live in God his light shines upon us and we bear good fruits of conduct and behavior.

1 John 1: 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Unbelievers live in darkness as their minds are blinded by the enemy and they don't see the Light of God.

2 Cor 4:4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

*Verse 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.*

The ministers and the pastors duty is to encourage people to live in holiness, to promote holiness and to set an example to the people, in their life and conduct. It pleases God when you live according to his will. If you are not following the worldly people in the broad road and following the narrow road of righteousness it pleases God. When you are not having fellowship with unbelievers it pleases God.

Unbelievers usually swim with the stream like dead fish, they follow the latest worldly fashion, the worldly customs as they follow the crowd; it is only the living fish that goes against the stream and we Christians are the living fish.

Romans 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

It is only the Christian who despises customs, Christians are pressured by the world to follow their ways but the true Christian asks himself the question, "Is it right or is it wrong? If it is right, I will be in the minority. If all the other people in the world are doing it I will not do it. If they stone me to death I will not follow the world. If the multitude will not follow me, I will go without them. I will despise their customs; I care not what others do, I shall not be tempted or pressured by other men, but to my own Master, my Lord and Savior I stand or fall. In this I conquer and overcome the customs of the world.

Our Lord set the example of obedience, he did not come to do his will but to do the will of the Father, in the same way we should not do what we like to do or what our emotions and feelings feel like doing but doing what is in the word of God, which is the will of the Father. The Father was pleased with Christ's obedience.

"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

***11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.***

If we have intimate fellowship of unbelievers it is very easy to get influenced by them. Because sometimes they sound good yet we should not walk according to our feelings, we don't walk by what we see but by faith. Do not trust in them but trust in the word of God.

Jer 17: 5 Thus says the Lord:

"Cursed is the man who trusts in man  
and makes flesh his strength,  
whose heart turns away from the Lord.

1 Thes 5:5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

And you should be separate from the world in your actions. We cannot honor Christ and the world, we cannot taste the sweetness of sin and the sweetness of Christ, it is like Darkness and Light, we cannot have both.

***12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.***

There is an old proverb which says, "Night has no shame." Many are involved in darling secret sins. We are ashamed to say what the wicked are doing but the wicked are not ashamed of doing their secret sins.

Sexual immorality is openly displayed in worldly movies, pornography is rampant every where. The government, the police, judges are all corrupt as they have forsaken the commandments of the Lord. Schools are corrupt and majority of the churches are corrupt as they do not want to talk of sin. But we need to expose sin as sin.

***13 But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible.***

When we expose the sins in the light of God's word many people get offended. I get many letters of people getting offended because we expose the false teachers in the light of God's word. Jesus said:

John 3: 19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people

loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

1 Tim 5:20 As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear.

2 Tim 4:1 I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: 2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. 3 For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

We Christians are the light of the world as we received this light from Christ who is the light from the Sun of righteousness. We cannot be soft on sin and cannot be pussy footed Christians but be bold to tell the truth in love.

Let me close with the following.

Heaven and hell have no fellowship. God and the devil have no fellowship. Light and darkness have no fellowship; God has divided the light and darkness. Christians of the light must not have fellowship with unbelievers and enjoy their pleasures of sin, don't have fellowship of their doctrines, or any kinds of deceits of darkness. We must discern what is right and wrong. What God has divided, let us never try to unite, the children of the day must be sober, honest, and bold in their Lord's work. Let us come out from the ungodly, and be a peculiar people. I can guarantee one thing you will not be very popular in the world.

Remember beloved, you are a Christian, you are a son of the King of kings. Therefore, keep yourself unspotted from the world. Do not allow your eyes to become the windows of lust because very soon in heaven you will see our Lord the King in his beauty. Do not let your feet be defiled walking in sinfulness, which are soon to walk the golden streets of heaven.

If we pray, then we also should act, or else we are hypocrites. If we go to church and profess to love him, then we should love him all the time. We need to take what we learned today to the world, even if there are 10 million people in the city and you are the only one who is not following their ways of evil come out from them and be separate then you have overcome the world.

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