

The Necessity Of Church Discipline

**I Corinthians 5: 1-8
Pew Bible Page 1313**

The Sin Necessitating Discipline

There was a man in the church at Corinth who was committing fornication with his stepmother.

Instead of weeping and being full of sorrow over this sin, the church was full of pride.

The same pride which was causing disunity in the church was also causing indifference to sin in the church.

The Exercise Of Discipline

Instead of being lifted up with pride, they should have been broken in humility, which should have led them to remove this man from the membership of the church.

Paul had already passed judgment upon this man and instructs the church to do the same.

Paul had apostolic authority, but it still had to be public action by the church against public sin.

The Exercise Of Discipline

To remove one from the church is equated with delivering that one unto Satan. It is removing one from God's domain and placing him in Satan's domain.

The goal of discipline is to destroy the sinful flesh with its sinful desires and impulses.

The goal of discipline is spiritual restoration; it is not punishment out of vengeance, but discipline out of love.

Remove this individual from the membership of the church and deliver him into Satan's domain so that when he follows his sinful flesh to the bottom of Satan's domain and realizes there is nothing there, he will repent of his sin and be rescued and restored spiritually.

The Reason For Discipline

There must be discipline for sin or sin will spread; the sin must be purged.

Church discipline is about the holiness of God and the purity of His church.

After the Passover lamb was slain in the Old Testament, the feast of Unleavened bread began.

Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been slain and we must rid ourselves of the leaven of sin.

As an individual and as a church, we must not be indifferent to sin.

Let us make sure we are keeping the Feast of Unleavened Bread by cleansing out the leaven of sin in our lives and church.