

I Corinthians 5 Sermon Outline

Purging the Leaven from the Church

Text: 1 Corinthians 5

I. The Sin Tolerated in Corinth (5:1–2)

A shocking immorality was present—one not even accepted among the Gentiles.

The church had grown arrogant instead of grieving; discipline was neglected.

II. The Apostolic Judgment (5:3–5)

Paul, though absent in body, was present in spirit with authority.

He declared the offender should be delivered to Satan—removed from the fellowship—for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit might be saved.

III. The Danger of Tolerated Sin (5:6–8)

“A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.” Sin spreads if unchecked.

Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed; therefore we must purge out the old leaven.

The feast of Christian life is kept in sincerity and truth, not with malice and wickedness.

IV. Clarifying Separation (5:9–11)

Paul had previously written not to keep company with the immoral.

He clarifies: this command does not apply to unbelievers of the world (for then we must leave the world).

It applies to anyone named a brother who lives in unrepentant sin—such must not be received as if all were well.

V. The Church’s Duty to Judge Those Within (5:12–13)

God judges those outside; the church must judge those within.

Scripture commands: “Put away from among yourselves that wicked person.”

Application

- Mourn Sin, Do Not Excuse It — The church must grieve when sin defiles the body.
- Exercise Loving Discipline — Correction aims at restoration, not destruction.

- Guard the Body's Holiness — Tolerated sin spreads; purity must be protected.
- Keep the Feast in Sincerity — Our lives should reflect Christ our Passover Lamb.
- Judge Righteously Within — God calls us to deal with sin in the church while leaving final judgment of the world to Him.