

## I Corinthians 5: 1-8 Summary

### A. Outline<sup>A</sup>

1. Party Spirit in the Church, chs 1-4<sup>B</sup>
2. Moral Disorders in the Church, chs 5-7 – *to be filled in as we go through this section in order to give the context of what has been written.*
  - a. Ch. 5 \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. 5:1-8 (Paul focusses on) Specific Immorality Addressed; Rebuking Immorality; Recognising & Dealing with Sin; Sin Defiles the Church
    - ii. 5:9-13 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Ch. 6 \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. 6:1-11 \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. 6:12-20 \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Ch. 7 \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. 7:1-9 \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. 7:10-16 \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii. 7:17-24 \_\_\_\_\_
    - iv. 7:25-40 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Social Relations in the Church, chs 8-11
4. Spiritual Gifts in the Church, chs 12-14
5. Fundamental Doctrine of the Church, ch 15
6. Conclusion of the Letter, ch 16

### B. Ch 5:1-8 *(See titles for this section above)*

1. Vv 1-2: Titles *Dealing with Immorality; Lack of Self & Church Discipline; Wrong values, wrong behaviour*
  - a. <sup>1</sup> It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.
    - i. **Key ideas:** (A specific case of) immorality; Corinthian Christian acting unsaved.
    - ii. Does this mean this never happened among Gentiles? **No. What then?** – Even Gentiles considered this wrong & not want it to be 'commonly (everywhere) reported.'
  - b. <sup>2</sup> And you have become arrogant, and have not mourned instead, in order that the one who had done this deed might be removed from your midst.
    - i. **Key ideas:** Unrepentance; No church discipline; Their wrong response; Their acceptance of immorality is condemned.
    - ii. What heresy is here refuted; cf Rom 6:1, 15 (yes, it is prevalent today!)? – The sin of a Christian doesn't matter for it is easily forgiven: 'I can do what I like. We are under grace not law.' It is called *antinomianism*; the NT refutes this idea (Gal 5:22ff).

<sup>A</sup> Major outlines from Thinking Through the Bible by Rev'd. Dr. John McNicol © 1944

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2. Vv 3-5: Titles *Temporary Consequence for Sake of Eternal Security (Salvation?) A Matter, a Time and a Place for Judgement; Immorality Judged;*
  - a. <sup>3</sup> For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged him who has so committed this, as though I were present.
    - i. **Key ideas:** Paul has judged; ... in absentia, but present in spirit; Judges as though present physically.
    - ii. **On what basis was this judgement given?** – Paul's authority in Christ; (but still applicable on the authority of Scriptures, Jesus & Holy Spirit's presence in church.)
  - b. <sup>4</sup> In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are assembled, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus,
    - i. **Key ideas:** They need spiritual discernment; The Lord Jesus is with us; Church represents name, power and unity of Christ
  - c. <sup>5</sup> I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.
    - i. **Key ideas:** Apostolic verdict; Paul's sentence and hope; Paul pronounces a stern remedy; Spirit more important than the flesh; A rightful sentence.
    - ii. What does 'delivering to Satan' imply (cf., I Timothy 1:20)? – in some way God's protection removed from saint; purpose of restoration though beyond help.
3. Vv 6-8: Titles *Lessons from Leaven; Illustrated by Yeast Realise your Salvation & Behave Accordingly*
  - a. <sup>6</sup> Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough?
    - i. **Key ideas:** Sin's contagion; Boasting spreads; A little pride (sin) negatively affects the whole person (whole church)
    - ii. What quality of yeast is in view here? – it puffs up; it permeates, spreads
    - iii. How does it illustrate the effect of this sin? – its effects spread: from first to the immediate people involved, through the whole church.
  - b. <sup>7</sup> Clean out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, just as you are *in fact* unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.
    - i. **Key ideas:** Cleansing needed; Get rid of sin; Purge yourself of fleshly pursuits; Be renewed in the work of Christ
    - ii. Why is the Passover example so appropriate? – Householder sweeps the place aggressively to remove every bit of leaven (representing sin), cleaned thoroughly.
  - c. <sup>8</sup> Let us therefore celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
    - i. **Key ideas:** Restored relationship; Celebrate Christ in sincerity & truth; Rejoice in our forgiveness and renewal;
    - ii. What are the inevitable results of acceptance of sin, particularly this one? – it brings malice (anti-love), wickedness (deeds of sin); destroys sincerity and truth.