1 Corinthians 5:9-13 – Summary

A. Outline^A

- 1. Party Spirit in the Church, chs 1-4^B
- 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

 A Stern Rebuke; Dealing with Sin, Specific & General
 i. 5:1-8 (Paul focusses on) Specific Immorality Addressed; Rebuking Immorality;
 Recognising & Dealing with Sin; Sin Defiles the Church
 ii. 5:9-13 Purify the Church; Immorality (Sin) Requires Judgement
 Separate Yourselves from the Unworthy

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.** ⁹ I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; ¹⁰ I [did] not at all [mean] with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters; for then you would have to go out of the world. ¹¹ But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he should be an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler not even to eat with such a one. ¹² For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within [the church]? ¹³ But those who are outside, God judges. **'Remove the wicked man from among yourselves'**."

C. I Corinthians 5:9-13 - fill in the title for these verses in the section above

^c Deuteronomy 17:7, 21:21, 22:21, 24:7 –

- 1. V 9 9 I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people;"
 - a. Key Idea(s): "I told you so!"; Sanctification reminder; Separation from immoral people; Reference to past letter.
 - b. Where is that letter found in the NT? It is not!
 - c. If a letter should be discovered that appears to be that letter, should it be added to the NT? No. The books in the NT canon were selected by the early church as valid based on 'first & second generation' testimony of individuals & churches. A new discovery has no such validation and could be a 'forgery' inspired by Satan.
- 2. V IO ¹⁰ I [did] not at all [mean] with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters; for then you would have to go out of the world.
 - a. Key Idea(s): "Don't be hermits"; "I'm not referring to unbelievers"; Clarification of separation's meaning not referring to unbelievers
 - b. If Paul's words had been misunderstood in that fashion, what other Biblical command would not be obeyed? the Great Commission, Matthew 28:19-20.
- **3.** V I I ¹¹ But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he should be an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler not even to eat with such a one.
 - a. Key Idea(s): It's immoral Christians needing rebuke; "I'm referring to disobedient believers"; Stay away from those claiming Christ but not living it out
 - **b.** In what realm were Paul's instructions to be understood? the kingdom of God on earth the visible, local church.
 - c. What means of discipline was to be used? ostracisation, particularly in the matter of table and social fellowship; possibly more specifically at the Lord's Table.(cf Jude 22f)
- 4. V $12 {}^{12}$ For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within [the church]?
 - a. Key Idea(s): Judge insiders, not outsiders; Judge Christians only
 - **b.** What should the focus of the church body be? on the Name of Christ and how it is upheld by the good reputation of the church, whose people name that Name.
- 5. V I3 ¹³ But those who are outside, God judges. 'Remove the wicked man from among yourselves'.
 - a. Key Idea(s): God judges outsiders; Different group, different judge
 - b. What is the context of the OT quotation? see footnote on previous page. The OT law, primarily national, how Israel was to live in the land with God as King. In these particular instances it prescribed execution for transgression of a specific law.
 - c. Why does that context not apply in the church? (1) we are citizens of the spiritual kingdom of God but also are residents & subject to secular government, to which belongs the power of the sword (Romans 13:4), not to us; (2) we are under grace, not law. So we apply the principle (removal) not the method (execution).

^A Major outlines from Thinking Through the Bible by Rev'd. Dr. John McNicol © 1944

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