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⁹ I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people.

¹⁰ Yet *I* certainly *did* not *mean* with the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world.

1 Corinthians 5:9-10

INTRODUCTION

1. An explanation was given
2. There was some danger:
 - a) Misunderstanding
 - b) Misapplication of what Paul was teaching

THE MISUNDERSTANDING STATED AND ADDRESSED

1. Paul may be misunderstood
2. That he had taught them to be totally isolated from sinful people
3. That the believer must keep away from all sexually immoral people
4. This misunderstanding would create even more problems
 - a) Some would argue for "separation"
 - b) This could lead to "isolation"
 - c) This could lead to hypocrisy

THE EXAMPLE OF THE LORD JESUS TO BE BORNE IN MIND

1. Luke recorded a woman who bathed the feet of the Lord Jesus with her tears in the house of Simon the Pharisee Luke 7
2. A woman caught in adultery was brought to the Lord John 8
3. The Lord Jesus' response
 - a) What He did not do
 - i) He did not separate Himself
 - ii) He did not isolate Himself
 - iii) He did not condemn
 - b) What He did
 - i) He forgave
 - ii) He urged them to sin no more
 - iii) He accepted all sinners for He had come to save them

QUALIFICATION MADE BY PAUL

1. He was well-aware of the sinful state of the world
2. A short list of people in the world:
 - a) Sexually immoral people of this world
 - b) Covetous people
 - c) Extortioners
 - d) Idolaters
3. We cannot escape from the reality of living in a sinful world
 - a) We do not judge
 - b) We do not condemn
 - c) They are in the world

d) They are not in the church

LESSONS FOR US TO PONDER OVER

¹Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.

²And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

³But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints;

⁴neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

⁵For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

⁷Therefore do not be partakers with them.

⁸For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk As children of light

⁹(for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),

¹⁰finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

¹¹And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose *them*.

¹²For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.

¹³But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.

¹⁴Therefore He says:

“Awake, you who sleep,
Arise from the dead,
And Christ will give you light.”

Ephesians 5:1-14

1. Paul urges all believers to walk in the light
2. They are not to follow the ways of the world
3. This approach would be normative