## Church Due Process

#### Your Excitement Is a Choice!

This subject is not boring but glorious when rightly understood and applied. And it is a special way we honor God and His word and love each other the best way by obeying it fully.

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Acts 17:11

#### Noble Men Do Two Things!

Eagerly hear preaching with ALL readiness.

Review Bible verses to confirm preaching.

And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them.

Nehemiah 8:12

## Church Due Process

A Church is God's Temple, Christ's Body, Spirit's House It is the Most Important Institution God Set Up on Earth <u>Due Process is the Rules to Handle Conflict & Problems</u> Governments and Businesses Usually Have Due Process We Must Do All Things by the Book – the Inspired Bible

Israel and Rome both had <u>due process</u>, which is a set of rules to rightly handle complaints, crimes, and problems.

# Doth our law judge any man, before it hear him, and know what he doeth? John 7:51

Nicodemus slowed a meeting of Jewish leaders to kill Jesus.

And as they bound him with thongs,
Paul said unto the centurion that stood by,
Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that
is a Roman, and uncondemned?

Acts 22:25

For non-citizens, the Roman method was examination by torture, which Paul stopped dead by appealing to due process for citizens.

## To whom I answered, It is not the manner of the Romans

to deliver any man to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have licence to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him.

Acts 25:16

Festus explained to Agrippa that he had tried Paul before giving him over to Jews.

Then said Paul, <u>I stand at Caesar's judgment seat</u>, where I ought to be judged: to the Jews have I done no wrong, as thou very well knowest....

but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them.

<u>I appeal unto Caesar</u>.

Acts 25:10-11

Paul, fearing the danger of a trip to Jerusalem, used Roman due process for highest protection.

America follows rules of <u>due process</u> for complaints or crimes as found in the Constitution, Bill of Rights, etc.

Innocent until proven guilty.
Right to fair trial by jury.
No double jeopardy.

Like O.T. Israel ... the N.T. church of Jesus Christ has <u>due process</u> rules to rightly deal with various kinds of offences.

Our Constitution is the Bible.
Inspired rules for churches.
Inspired rules for pastors.

## For because ye did it not at the first, the LORD our God made a breach upon us, for that we sought him not after the <u>due order</u>.

I Chronicles 15:13

God killed Uzzah and ruined David's great parade to move the Ark of the Covenant, because they moved it the wrong way.

They did not follow the <u>due order</u>.

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh <u>disorderly</u>, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

II Thessalonians 3:6 (and II Thess 3:7 and 3:11)

The sinners here the church should punish were not working and being busybodies in other men's matters.

### **Disorderly** = not following <u>due order</u>.

It occurs three times in the Bible, all in this chapter of discipline.

## And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Matthew 18:17

The sins here might be the smallest of offences between men, like losing the power cord on a borrowed jigsaw.

## Therefore, <u>due process</u> is Bible rules for each member *and* for the church.

If <u>due process</u> rules are violated, it is sin. Sin by a disorderly member violating it. Sin by a disorderly church breaking it. Due process must be kept by both. It is Bible wisdom from heaven.

## Therefore, <u>due process</u> must be learned and demanded by members and church.

The Bible has clearly detailed all mutual duties. Every action should be measured only by Bible. There is no other process to consider or follow. If you leave the scriptures, you are lost at sea. Terrible sins begin by incremental compromise.

Have you measured every person's actions by the <u>due process</u> of God's clear rules laid down in scripture?

#### Due Process Has Been Taught

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https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2000/church-discipline/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2002/eli-and-sons/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2003/biblical-separation/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2005/review-of-church-discipline/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2007/treatment-of-excluded-brethren/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2007/psalm-144/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2010/gods-ordinance-of-authority/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2012/magnify-mine-office/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2012/miriam-and-korah/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2015/psalm-101/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2020/church-purity/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2022/priorities-of-fearful-pastors-1/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2023/church-purity-1/
https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2023/church-purity-1/
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https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2023/church-purity-3/

Allowing confusion or asking questions without serious effort to review previous teaching on this very subject seems like rebellion or scorn.

#### Questions May Be Caused By ...

<u>Lost appreciation for importance of local church</u>.

Emotions and feelings override Bible revelation.

Mentally lazy so sound Bible reasoning is lost.

Family or friends become more important.

Forgetting God sends these church trials.

Experience in false churches corrupts.

Heresy of some universal church.

Lack of zeal for cause of Christ.

## What Is a Church? (1)

God's Temple

Spirit's House

Christ's Body

Potentate's Property

Scripture Repository

**Treasure Chest** 

## What Is a Church? (2)

Christ's Prophecy

Angelic Wonder

**Heavenly Connection** 

**Royal Commission** 

Truth Defender

**Salvation Source** 

## What Is a Church? (3)

Worship Center

Reality Check

God's Seminary

**Small Claims Court** 

Welfare Agency

Prayer Band

## What Is a Church? (4)

**Competent Counselors** 

Synergistic Support

Replacement Family

**Best Friends** 

Heaven's Executioner

Living Organism

## What Is a Church? (5)

Freedom Park

Support Group

Lord's Supper

**Praise Band** 

**United Nations** 

**Secret Society** 

## What Is a Church? (6)

Mega Church

Christ's Bride

Hidden Wisdom

Do you grasp a little how great the local church of Jesus is?

Do you grasp a little how great our duty to protect it?

If Moses, Phinehas, David, Josiah, Nehemiah fought for O.T. purity, what will we do with the better N.T. church of Jesus Christ? The study was called Church Purity, and it was preached one year ago and also preached four years ago.

Allowing confusion or asking questions without serious effort to review previous teaching on this very subject seems like rebellion or scorn.

### Questions May Be Caused By ...

Lost appreciation for importance of local church. Emotions and feelings override Bible revelation. Mentally lazy so sound Bible reasoning is lost. Family and friends become most important. Forgetting God sends these church trials. Experience in false churches corrupts.

Heresy of some universal church.

Lack of zeal for cause of Christ.

## For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

Every man's work shall be made manifest:

for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

I Corinthians 3:11-13

Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me.

For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

II Corinthians 11:1-2

## If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha.

I Corinthians 16:22

### Church Due Process Is a N.T. Doctrine

Paul was forced to folly of defending his motives and methods.

God gave the church like a bride to Jesus, to be a chaste virgin.

• Paul feared false teachers, members, and doctrine that seduce.

Paul's obsessive loyalty was to Christ, not the church or any in it.

We together should all be perfectly faithful as a bride to Jesus.

### To whom was Paul obsessively loyal?

God and His Son Jesus Christ, which is how each of us must examine ourselves, for we will either obey Him fully or not, and He does not accept partial obedience.

## Loyalty to Jesus Christ Will Follow Due Process

We cannot be today's average church; we go above and beyond.

They flirt with heresy, worldly everything, sinners, and neglect.

Here is a summary of ecclesiology for pastors and pure churches.

How to manage a church and its discipline to be pure for Christ.

Many links at the end will make this slide study rather complete.

I teach all five spheres of authority, defending fathers, husbands, employers, and rulers, now churches and pastors.

The rules given in these slides may not be a steady progression – to make sure key ones are covered.

### **Due Process #1**

Paul promised churches would have heresies (as at Corinth) to reveal God's true children committed to His truth over anything else.

# For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.

I Corinthians 11:19

Paul did not say heresies expose heretics to get rid of them but to prove if you love Christ.

### **Due Process #2**

Heresy and heretic are often misunderstood. They only mean false doctrine or practice. They do not mean a person is a reprobate.

But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject; Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself. Titus 3:9-11

Above, heretics rejected by churches may be lazy busybodies, harmful to jigsaws, or deny the virgin birth.

## Misunderstanding Bible terms or doctrine must not happen.

Do not guess about words like *heretic*. Or practices like *turning over to Satan*. Or church chastening like *damnation*. Or *having no company* with sinners.

### **Due Process #3**

We cannot move an inch from scripture; it is the only basis of truth and right; compromise from God and His wisdom has consequences.

# Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way.

Psalm 119:128

# Teaching them to observe <u>all things whatsoever I have commanded you:</u> and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Matthew 28:20

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

II Timothy 3:16-17

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Ephesians 4:14

### **Due Process #4**

We move slowly to exclude any, say little in public, and are more merciful than zealous.

### Why a Slow Response?

Haste is sin, especially in large matters. A rush to judgment seems like revenge. A rush to judgment can rattle the sheep. It is most important to save those left. Emotion seldom makes right choices. Allow the departed time to repent.

### Why Silence in Public?

Our Zoom viewers do not need to know. Services should unite all those remaining. Discipline must not dominate assemblies. Members may assume much private labor. Small meetings like prayer will allow more. Special meetings can be for the situation.

### Why So Merciful?

God delights in mercy, wants us to love it. We will get the mercy we show to others. Rather be Jesus than the sons of thunder. David over Joab or Moses over Jeremiah. Follow Stephen as he followed his Lord. Leave vengeance to Him that is perfect.

### **Due Process #5**

Church exclusion is to save, if the sinners are erring elect, as Paul explained and taught it, which should guide our attitude and action.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,
To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh,

that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

I Corinthians 5:4-5

Why is it a big problem to help save someone that fell into sin ignorantly or presumptuously?

This is the brotherly action we all should appreciate and be willing to use and have used toward us. Jesus the Head of our church has saved several souls recently that we excluded Paul's inspired way.

### **Due Process #6**

Turning a brother over to Satan is less and better than some think; it is to perfect the erring brother's spirit (as other cases show).

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,

To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

I Corinthians 5:4-5

### How Is It Less than Some Think?

It is not cursing the person to eternal hell. It is not cursing their body to destruction. It is not cursing them to devil possession. It is not cursing any to a reprobate mind. It is not cursing the rest of life on earth. It is not cursing them to be castaways.

### How Is It Better than We Think?

It is the most direct act to perfect a spirit. It is actually not much of the punishment. It is not anything to reverse at restoration. Excluded are still admonished as brothers. It is how God brings them to repentance. It is a thing God did to His favorite men!

### Four of God's Very Best Men

**Job** ... learned wisdom and got twice back.

David ... punish Israel and temple location.

**Peter** ... perfect him to lead apostles after.

Paul ... help his humility after heaven trip.

### God Loved the Four Very Much

He got great glory from resulting events. It was more perfection than punishment. Their spirits after were better than before. He reversed three of them but left Paul's.

#### What of Corinth's Fornicator?

What effect? Godly sorrow to repentance! His spirit was saved before his restoration. Then the church reversed the punishment. What punishment? Shunned by the church. This man was far better for Christ's return.

### Pastor, Are You Serious?

Did you modify Bible doctrine to make it easier for weaker members to exclude?

#### No! ... Never!

This was taught and put in writing in 2005 and has been on the website since then.

https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2005/review-of-church-discipline/

### Why So Much Confusion?

Superstition and ignorance! The Bible explains this part of exclusion, if you will hear and review what has been preached, and if you will think beyond RCC exorcists.

#### **Due Process #7**

There is protection in the local church that exclusion ends, but the One judging outside the church is God our perfect, loving Father.

For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

But them that are without God judgeth.

Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

I Corinthians 5:12-13

If we do not do our job, our Lord will enter our church to do it for us, like Corinth's hospital and cemetery, and like 36 dead in Israel due to Achan.

Paul here, and where he ordered the fornicator restored, proved election, thus judgment outside the church is chastening, just like sick and dead in Corinth was chastening of elect.

For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

For this cause

many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

I Corinthians 11:29-32

#### **Due Process #8**

We follow rules of restoration lest we give Satan an advantage, for we know his devices.

Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many. So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow. Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him.

II Corinthians 2:6-8

To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ; Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

II Corinthians 2:10-11

## Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil.

**Ephesians 4:26-27** 

Satan's devices include anger, bitterness, and lack of forgiveness ... and they lead to murder, as with Cain killing Abel.

#### **Due Process #9**

We celebrate repentance more than most (or more than all) with fatted-calf feasts to match angels in heaven and Jesus' lessons. But the father said to his servants,
Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him;
and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:
And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it;
and let us eat, and be merry:

For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

Luke 15:22-24

Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Luke 15:10

Our FCFs do not make us special, for we happily deny that to our Lord, but they make His forgiveness special, as the angels in heaven celebrate it.

#### **Due Process #10**

Bible rules tell how to resolve grievances between members ... ignoring or altering the rules is sin, hatred, or rebellion against God.

# Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.

Leviticus 19:17

Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church:

but if he neglect to hear the church,

let him be unto thee as an

heathen man and a publican.

Matthew 18:15-17

This is <u>due process</u>, if there ever was such a thing, and ordered by heaven.

The only other option available to an offended brother is to be glorious and pass over the transgression (Prov 19:11).

Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Matthew 18:15-17

This is by order of Jesus our Lord for faults or offences between brethren.

Talk to your brother privately; tell no one. If that fails, do it again with witnesses. If that fails, let the church judge it.

This is by order of Jesus our Lord for faults or offences between brethren.

I Corinthians 6:1-8 confirms the same rule.

Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints? Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life? I Corinthians 6:1-3

This is by order of Jesus our Lord for faults or offences between brethren.

Unresolved offences are wrong, and any other approach is sin, yea, defrauding.

#### **Due Process #11**

Jesus our Lord and King told us to treat a man that broke a jigsaw as an heathen man and publican by His authority in the church.

And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church:
but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be
unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.
Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind
on earth shall be bound in heaven:
and whatsoever ye shall loose
on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matthew 18:17-18

## <u>Due process</u> includes avoiding or shunning rebels against <u>due process</u>.

Jesus the Head of the church exalted each church's authority, so that disobeying the church is dealt with severely.

Now I beseech you, brethren,

mark them which cause divisions and offences
contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned;

and avoid them.

**Romans 16:17** 

But now I have written unto you <u>not to keep company</u>, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; <u>with such an one no not to eat</u>.

I Corinthians 5:11

# And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.

II Thessalonians 3:14

### Why the Punishment of Avoiding?

To make them ashamed for violating truth.

To escape corruption of good manners.

To focus brotherly love on obedient.

To exalt local church authority.

To show sin as very sinful.

# For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

Romans 16:18

### **Due Process #12**

The distinction between sins against God and sins against men is crucial; it is dealt with by Paul in two successive but separate chapters.

If one man sin against another,
the judge shall judge him:
but if a man sin against the LORD,
who shall intreat for him?
Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto the voice of their father, because the LORD would slay them.

I Samuel 2:25

Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints? Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life? I Corinthians 6:1-3

# It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.

I Corinthians 5:1-2

### **Due Process #13**

Three questions and answers dictate Bible treatment – large or small, public or private, repentance or obstinance – of eight options.

The three questions and answers and eight resulting options are God's due process from the 2000 document, Church Discipline.

https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2000/church-discipline/

Very few grasp the three questions and their resulting eight options, which are crucial to due process, or Bible rules are misapplied.

### **Due Process #14**

Pastors may use public rebukes short of exclusion. They are authorized, illustrated, and encouraged for the sinners and others.

# Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.

I Timothy 5:20

Some limit this to pastors rebuking pastors. Huh? How could it be done?

Timothy order all pastors meet in Rome?

If it applies to pastors, it applies much more to members, by greater to lesser.

# I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.

Philippians 4:2

Smite a scorner, and the simple will beware: and reprove one that hath understanding, and he will understand knowledge.

Proverbs 19:25

# Thus Jesus and the apostles named names of sinners.

Peter

**Hymenaeus** 

**Alexander** 

**Philetus** 

**Demas** 

**Diotrephes** 

**Jezebel** 

### **Due Process #15**

Respect of persons is evil in both testaments; family or friends give you an opportunity for godly zeal against any nepotistic favoritism.

# These things also belong to the wise. It is not good to have <u>respect of persons</u> in judgment.

Proverbs 24:23

# To have <u>respect of persons</u> is not good: for for a piece of bread that man will transgress.

Proverbs 28:21

My brethren,
have not the faith of
our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory,
with respect of persons.

James 2:1

### **Due Process #16**

Respect of persons misses the danger and draw of pretty people or friends to weak character, who compromise by infatuation.

And they rose up before Moses, with certain of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty **princes** of the assembly, **famous** in the congregation, men of **renown**:

Number 16:2

But the Jews stirred up
the <u>devout</u> and <u>honourable</u> women,
and the <u>chief men of the city</u>,
and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas,
and expelled them out of their coasts.

Acts 13:50

Pretty people or friends test your character to only measure by Bible.

Absalom stole the hearts of Israel's men from David, though David was infinitely superior to him in every righteous way, though it did not appear so to most.

### **Due Process #17**

Jesus promised to divide families as a test and cost of true disciples, which must be remembered and honored over family ties. Think not that I am come to send peace on earth:
I came not to send peace, but a sword....

And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

Matthew 10:34-37

### God may ask for your Isaac.

Will you, like faithful Abraham, zealously execute the sacrifice for God's house, truth, worship? *He was approved*.

And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. And Abraham rose up early in the morning....

**Genesis 22:1-3** 

### God Measures by Family and Friends.

Our infinitely-wise Father in heaven knows that love for Him is measured by what dears you will give up for Him.

If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods.... Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him: But thou shalt surely kill him; thine hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people.

Deuteronomy 13:6-11

### Moses Blessed the Sons of Levi.

He told them they could consecrate themselves to Jehovah by killing family and friends for golden calf compromise.

Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.

Exodus 32:26-29

### God Blessed Phinehas for Zeal.

He gave the Phinehas and his family a huge reward for zealously using a javelin instead of crying with weak compromisers.

And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose up from among the congregation, and took a javelin in his hand; And he went after the man of Israel into the tent, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel.

Numbers 25:7-8

### **Due Process #18**

A person with faith may appear calloused at such times, for they have God and persons in their proper places, like David and Job did. Then said his wife unto him,

Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.

But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one
of the foolish women speaketh.

What? shall we receive good at the hand of God
and shall we not receive evil?

In all this did not Job sin with his lips.

Job 2:9-10

## <u>In whose eyes a vile person is contemned;</u> but he honoureth them that fear the LORD.

Psalm 15:4

# I will early destroy all the wicked of the land; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the LORD.

Psalm 101:8

#### **Due Process #19**

God will replace family 100-fold lost in the line of duty for loving and obeying Him over relationships of family and friends or assets.

And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.

Mark 10:29-30

God does not have to do this, but He does it anyway, yet many cannot let sinful friends go for 100 better ones. Amazing disrespect for duty and gift!

#### **Due Process #20**

You must believe God over and against feelings to obey for a blessing; sentimentality will cause compromise and cost you greatly.

# Thine eye shall not pity him, but thou shalt put away the guilt of innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with thee.

Deuteronomy 19:13

## Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

Proverbs 19:18

And ye are puffed up,
and have not rather mourned,
that he that hath done this deed
might be taken away from among you.

I Corinthians 5:2

#### **Due Process #21**

Membership duties to a church and Christ do not end by leaving or withdrawing. Covenant promises still stand. Desertion is clearly a sin. We have explained this many times, but some hate accountability.

How do we become members? by walking in the door? No, by mutual compact with the church. Walking out does not end it.

The only way out of a church is the same way you joined it.

You need unanimous approval by the church to become a member, and you need the same approval to go elsewhere with God's acceptance of your departure.

You promised by public church covenant to attend assemblies to keep Heb 10:25, which you sinfully break by deserting.

(Membership Promise 12)

You promised by public church covenant to keep the unity of the Spirit in peace, which you sinfully break by deserting. (Membership Promise 11)

You promised by public church covenant to support the church's financial needs, which you sinfully break by deserting.

(Membership Promise 13)

You promised by public church covenant to use Matt 18 for differences, which you sinfully break by deserting for differences.

(Membership Promise 9)

#### Think by Consequence!

If we do not formally exclude those that "withdraw," any member could withdraw for any sin and neuter church authority. God's due process is not so easily voided!

#### Think by Consequence!

Corinth's fornicator, hearing Paul was about to exclude him, could withdraw his membership to avoid censure and Satan. God's due process is not so easily voided!

#### Think by Consequence!

A church member wanting to follow Joe Smith but still keep church friends, could withdraw to avoid exclusion and shunning. God's due process is not so easily voided!

Once a Christian says, "I do," to initiate a marriage, they cannot after getting bored two years later, say, "I will not anymore."

Once an Army recruit swears to uphold the Constitution, he cannot after seeing a terrible firefight, say, "I'm outta here." Such is AWOL, court martial, or death.

Once Israel made David king, by shouting, "God save the king," they gave him the right to use the army to enforce it.

Once President Biden became president, but you wear a MAGA hat and voted for Donald Trump, you cannot ignore taxes. America's due process is not so voided!

#### Think by Precedent!

All our members have excluded deserters. If they did not grasp it, they should have. We review this at joining and exclusions. Thus we very slowly receive members.

#### Pastor, How Can I Leave the COG?

By unanimous approval to join a similar church. By Jesus returning and joining the church above.

By your death, whether buried beside us or not.

By approval for new climate for health reasons.

By forced visa denial back to a nation like Russia.

By using due process to show the church in error.

By exclusion for violating your church covenant.

#### **Due Process #22**

Rebellion and stubbornness are as witchcraft and idolatry; they are by pride, not prudence or principle; public worship does not cover.

And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

I Samuel 15:22-23

## What Does God Want from Us?

Total obedience, which Saul did not give. Never thinking public worship covers sin. Hating rebellion and stubbornness greatly. Never rejecting God's word for any reason. We should give Him all these things gladly.

#### **Due Process #23**

There is a spirit and way to question a pastor, and ignoring proper respect is folly, for it turns into despising a ruler or sin of sedition.

#### David Was a Prophet and King

Abigail corrected him for sin against Nabal. A woman of Tekoah had him call Absalom. Joab corrected him for mourning Absalom. Humbly accepted Bathsheba for Solomon.

And David said to Abigail,
Blessed be the LORD God of Israel,
which sent thee this day to meet me:
And blessed be thy advice, and blessed be thou,
which hast kept me this day from coming to shed blood,
and from avenging myself with mine own hand.

I Samuel 25:32-33

Then the woman said, Let thine handmaid, I pray thee, speak one word unto my lord the king. And he said, Say on. And the woman said, Wherefore then hast thou thought such a thing against the people of God? for the king doth speak this thing as one which is faulty, in that the king doth not fetch home again his banished.

II Samuel 14:12-13

And Joab came into the house to the king, and said, Thou hast shamed this day the faces of all thy servants, which this day have saved thy life, and the lives of thy sons and of thy daughters, and the lives of thy wives, and the lives of thy concubines; In that thou lovest thine enemies, and hatest thy friends. For thou hast declared this day, that thou regardest neither princes nor servants: for this day I perceive, that if Absalom had lived, and all we had died this day, then it had pleased thee well.

## By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone.

Proverbs 25:15

## If the spirit of the ruler rise up against thee, <u>leave not thy place</u>; for yielding pacifieth great offences.

**Ecclesiastes 10:4** 

#### Other Bible Examples

Moses submitted to Jethro's suggestion. Ahab humbled himself to Elijah's rebuke. Ahasuerus asked and accepted counsel. Paul received James' request for OT vow. Peter accepted Paul's rebuke and turned.

#### A Few Ways of Due Process

Do it in private, and do not talk about it. Do it humbly and respectfully as to boss. Never fish, anonymous, or pseudonyms. Allow time to think about it to respond. Patience and soft tongue breaks bones. Use Philemon over Pharisee disrespect.

God views treatment of prophets or pastors, His chosen ambassadors, as treatment of Himself that way, so be careful, respectful. And Moses said, This shall be,
when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat,
and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth
your murmurings which ye murmur against him:
and what are we? your murmurings are
not against us, but against the LORD.

Exodus 16:8

And the LORD said unto Samuel,
Hearken unto the voice of the people
in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee,
but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

I Samuel 8:7

### Bible Examples of God Judging

Abimelech a dead man for taking Sarah Sister Miriam got a bad case of leprosy. Children torn by she bears for teasing. Korah's buried alived or burned alive. Pashur renamed for terror for smiting. King Herod eaten by worms for James.

### Bible Examples of God Warning

Pastors to be highly esteemed for work.
Pastors followed and obeyed (Hebrews).
Corinth warned about treating Timothy.
Titus was to blast away with all authority.
Timothy was to be insistent despite faces.

Now if Timotheus come,

see that he may be with you without fear:

for he worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do.

Let no man therefore despise him: but conduct him forth in peace, that he may come unto me: for I look

for him with the brethren.

I Corinthians 16:10-11

Small offences with a pastor, as found in Matthew 18:15-17 and I Corinthians 6:1-8, are dealt with the same, but much respect.

#### Small Offences Between Men

The jig-saw example applies to him also. Go gently like you would a boss at work. Your pastor has fixed many such before. You have heard him ask for such to fix. If we love peace as the Bible, it is easy.

Doctrinal questions for a pastor, as found in Galatians 2:11 or James 5:19-20, are dealt with the same, by much respect and hearing.

#### **Doctrinal Questions to Pastor**

Only the RCC Pope thinks he is infallible. Your pastor craves all truth by any means. Unless obvious, give him time to consider. Remember, he likes a tsunami of evidence. Your pastor has changed doctrine this way.

### **Doctrinal Changes**

Membership – Baptism

One-Word Arguments

Love Is the Greatest

Footwashing

Stones or Hailstones

Questions or suggestions of practice, as found in Galatians 2:11 or James 5:19-20, are dealt with the same, by respect and listening.

#### **Practical Questions to Pastor**

Only the RCC Pope thinks he is infallible. Recall, pastors and churches have liberty. Unless obvious, give him time to consider. He will desire to weigh it by many angles. Your pastor has changed practices often.

### **Practical Changes**

Saturday Devotions

**Preparatory Email** 

**Holding Bread Aloft** 

Bible Quizzing

Sunday Men's Prayer

Bldg. Committee

Sins against God, may be pursued with a pastor like in Galatians 6:1 or James 5:19-20, with much humility, meekness, and respect.

### Large Sins Against God

Private sins are dealt with like other men. Your pastor wants godliness by any means. Use gentleness and humility due to office. Give him time to consider and to respond. Your pastor has repented of sins this way.

Bible due process includes restricting women from speaking or even asking questions in church, but rather to ask husbands at home. Let your women keep silence in the churches:
for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are
commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.
And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at
home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

I Corinthians 14:34-35

For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive <u>silly women laden with sins</u>, led away with divers lusts, ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

II Timothy 3:6-7

### Widows Need Not Worry!

For unmarried women without a husband or father, ask any of the men or the pastor to be brought up to speed as any wife.

#### Yet She is God's Greatest Gift!

We want to honor our wives like the Bible tells us, and when our men thank God for her as his greatest earthly gift, it is true.

Leading and teaching a wife is the man's job at home, lest he be neutered and ruled like Herod by Herodias to cut off John's head. For John had said unto Herod,
It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife.

Therefore Herodias had a quarrel against him,
and would have killed him; but she could not:

For Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just man and an holy, and observed him; and when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly.

Mark 6:18-20

And she came in straightway with haste unto the king, and asked, saying, I will that thou give me by and by in a charger the head of John the Baptist. And the king was exceeding sorry .... And immediately the king sent an executioner, and commanded his head to be brought: and he went and beheaded him in the prison, And brought his head in a charger, and gave it to the damsel: and the damsel gave it to her mother.

Mark 6:25-28

#### David Did Much Better!

He married Abigail for a fantastic spirit, even though she had corrected him in private, and he dumped Michal for her profane mocking of his worship of God.

Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle. Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,

Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.

II Thessalonians 2:15-17

The <u>sin of listening</u> is often overlooked, since this particular sinner is passive, and it is another sinner that does the sinful talking. You have a duty to God and godliness about things others may say to you.

This is part of due process – rejecting false information as lies or irrelevant.

# Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.

Proverbs 19:27

# A wicked doer giveth heed to false lips; and a liar giveth ear to a naughty tongue.

Proverbs 17:4

# Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not in him the lips of knowledge.

Proverbs 14:7

Telling secrets – talebearing – is a sin, but so is listening to those secrets.

If ears were guarded like mouths should be, whispering would end.

# The north wind driveth away rain: so doth an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.

Proverbs 25:23

Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

I Thessalonians 5:14

## When anyone tells you they have a problem with another person ...

#### THERE IS ONLY ONE GODLY RESPONSE

"Stop telling me about it. Go to that other person and fix your problem right now."

## If anyone with a problem with someone else says they have tried ...

#### THERE IS ONLY ONE GODLY RESPONSE

"Stop telling me about it, unless you are asking me to go with you as a witness."

When listeners do not respond right, allowing the talkers to sin, relationship damage can be great, and God's disapproval will be great.

Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out:

so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.

As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire;

so is a contentious man to kindle strife.

The words of a talebearer are as wounds,
and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

Proverbs 26:20-22

# Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

Proverbs 10:12

Do not play with the church of God by neglect, mockery, or rebellion, in fact or implied, by attitude or conduct. It is God's.

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

If any man defile the temple of God,

him shall God destroy;

for the temple of God is holy,

which temple ye are.

I Corinthians 3:16-17

Whiles it remained, was it not thine own?
and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power?
why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart?
thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.
And Ananias hearing these words fell down,
and gave up the ghost: and great fear came
on all them that heard these things.

Acts 5:4-5

## This is the law of the house;

Upon the top of the mountain the whole limit thereof round about shall be most holy.

Behold, this is the law of the house.

Ezekiel 43:12

For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

I Corinthians 11:29-30

Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

Hebrews 10:29

Criticism of church or pastor sows discord and violates church unity, and God hates all that do so ... and those that listen to them.

These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him ... he that soweth discord among brethren.

Proverbs 6:16-19

# A wicked doer giveth heed to false lips; and a liar giveth ear to a naughty tongue.

Proverbs 17:4

We discriminate against fools and scorners, as the Bible teaches and requires in both testaments, lest we be fools like them.

He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot.

Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.

Proverbs 9:7-8

# Speak not in the ears of a fool: for he will despise the wisdom of thy words.

Proverbs 23:9

Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.

Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.

Proverbs 26:4-5

Not all questions or concerns are valid. In fact, Paul taught Timothy and Titus to avoid foolish and unlearned questions. Their call.

# But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

II Timothy 2:23

But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.

**Titus 3:9** 

You cannot improve discipline being gentler or harsher than scripture; the best hope of success is doing it His way without alteration. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

II Timothy 3:16-17

The greatest enemies of truth, whether by John, Jesus, or Paul, were the Jewish legalist Pharisees.

My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among mine own nation at Jerusalem, know all the Jews; Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion

I lived a Pharisee.

Acts 26:4-5

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Matthew 23:23

The Bible combines lists of excludable sins for a master list, and then it adds apostolic tradition covering sins not in the master list!

But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

I Corinthians 5:11

God chose the demonstrative word **SUCH** to indicate ... and any other sins like those in the list!

## Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like:

of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:21

Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit <u>such things</u> are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Romans 1:32

Rom 1:29-31	<u>l Cor 5:11</u>	<u>I Cor 6:9-10</u>	<u>Gal 5:19-21</u>	<u>Eph 5:3-5</u>
<b>Unrighteousness</b>	<b>Fornicator</b>	<b>Unrighteous</b>	Adultery	<b>Fornication</b>
<b>Fornication</b>	<u>Covetous</u>	<b>Fornicators</b>	<b>Fornication</b>	<b>Uncleanness</b>
Wickedness	<mark>Idolater</mark>	<b>Idolaters</b>	<b>Uncleanness</b>	Covetousness
<b>Covetousness</b>	Railer	<b>Adulterers</b>	Lasciviousness	Filthiness
Maliciousness	<mark>Drunkard</mark>	Effeminate	<b>Idolatry</b>	Foolish Talking
<mark>Envy</mark>	<b>Extortioner</b>	Abusers with Mankind	Witchcraft	Jesting
<mark>Murder</mark>		Thieves	Hatred	
Debate		<b>Covetous</b>	Variance	
Deceit		<b>Drunkards</b>	Emulations	
Malignity		Revilers	Wrath	
Whisperers		<b>Extortioners</b>	Strife	
Backbiters			Seditions	
Haters of God			Heresies	
Despiteful			<b>Envyings</b>	
Proud			<b>Murders</b>	
Boasters			<b>Drunkenness</b>	
Inventors of evil things			Revellings	
Disobedient to parents				
Without understanding				
Covenantbreakers				
Without natural affection				
Implacable				
Unmerciful				

God blessed us to make a handbook with definitions of sins, especially those sins not known as well by most Christians.

https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2002/forgotten-sins/

The Bible also adds apostolic tradition as a matter for separation from church members, as they wrote Jesus Christ's commands to us.

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh <u>disorderly</u>, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

II Thessalonians 3:6

Diligent Labor in Gainful Employment	I Thess 4:11-12; II Thess 3:7-12
Long Hair on Otherwise Masculine Men	l Corinthians 11:7,14
Short Hair on Otherwise Feminine Women	I Corinthians 11:6,10,15
Forsaking the Assemblies of the Church	Hebrews 10:23-25
Providing Financially for Wider Family	I Timothy 5:1-16
Sexually Defrauding Your Spouse	l Corinthians 7:1-5
Submission to Civil Rulers in Word or Deed	Romans 13:1-7; I Peter 2:13-17
Marrying an Unbeliever	I Corinthians 7:39-40

A pastor's greatest fear is weak members unable to discern ... grasp instructions ... rule emotions ... or honor God over persons.

If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:26-27

# If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

Proverbs 24:10

The lesson our Lord taught by two examples was to count the cost to be His disciple and do it!

#### **Due Process #40**

A pastor's next greatest fear is harsh members unable to wait, wanting to slash and burn, loving Joab's spirit over David's.

And I am this day weak, though anointed king; and these men the sons of Zeruiah be too hard for me: the LORD shall reward the doer of evil according to his wickedness.

II Samuel 3:39

But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.

Luke 9:55-56

#### **Due Process #41**

Faithful pastors dig and dung fruitless members, if they pose no threat to others; they let God cut them down in His own time. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard,
Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree,
and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?
And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone
this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it:
And if it bear fruit, well: and if not,
then after that thou shalt cut it down.

Luke 13:7-9

#### **Due Process #42**

God covers sins (for which you should be thankful), and we excitedly do the same by His command without violating other duties.

### We Cover Sin and Love Doing It!

Everyone has sins they are glad the church does not know, and they will have more to cover, and they will cover children's.

### **Saving and Covering is Wonderful!**

Covering sins by repentance, should be the reflex action of godly, spiritual Christians, like God covers ours.

# It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.

Proverbs 25:2

### **God Surprised Us in the Bible!**

Hebrews 11 includes in its list of heroes:

Noah

**Abraham** 

Sarah

Isaac

Jacob

Gideon

Samson

**David** 

How many times when Jesus said, Thy sins be forgiven thee, did He tell what those sins were?

### Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

Proverbs 10:12

### He that <u>covereth a transgression</u> seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends.

Proverbs 17:9

### And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

I Peter 4:8

Covering sins is opposite talebearing or whispering by keeping secrets private and not telling them.

### A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of <u>a faithful spirit concealeth the matter</u>.

Proverbs 11:13

### He that goeth about as a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.

Proverbs 20:19

Earlier Jesus taught us how to handle small matters between brothers.

Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

Matthew 18:15

### Debate thy cause with thy neighbour **himself**; and discover not a secret to another:

Proverbs 25:9

Larger matters, sins against God, are to be dealt with the same way, privately and kept secret.

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Galatians 6:1

Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

James 5:19-20

### **Every Father Covers Often and Will**

As children get older and ARS comes into play, each father will cover more and more private sins they keep within the family.

### **Every Marriage and Family Does It**

Sins in the privacy of marriage and family are not announced every Sunday to the rest of the church.

### **Family Privacy & Liberty**

You all make <u>liberty</u> decisions of all kinds all the time, and I am hardly involved in any of them.

Finances Healthcare Alcohol

Discipline Petty crimes Fights

**Education Entertainment Sex** 

### **Family Privacy & Liberty**

Sometimes a brother may ask for advice, less than 2% of the time, hardly any of the decisions.

Jobs Dating Questions Debts
# of Kids Larger Family Clothing
Job ethics Relationships Marriage

#### **Due Process #43**

Only sins repented of and not known by most are covered, for unrepentant sinners and public sins must be dealt with by church.

# It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.

I Corinthians 5:1

And if he shall neglect to hear them,
tell it unto the church:
but if he neglect to hear the church,
let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Matthew 18:17

#### **Due Process #44**

Charity (love) and forgiveness (mercy) are marks of true Christians, and they want to practice both in every opportunity they can.

Charity (love) and forgiveness (mercy) are crucial components to sinners getting along in God's family.

### But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

I Corinthians 12:31

# And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

I Corinthians 13:13

Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another.

Why do ye not rather take wrong?

why do ye not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded?

I Corinthians 6:7

## The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression.

Proverbs 19:11

We love the idea of <u>Passover</u> – when I see the blood, I will <u>pass over</u> you.

We should show this same kindness to those who have barely, hardly wronged us. We love the Lord's comparison of 10,000 talents to 100 pence.

We should look forward to opportunities when we can easily forgive each other.

## It Takes Covering to Save Sinners

As you help a person with addiction, habits, or weakness, you may have to forgive repeatedly and cover repeatedly.

Should we destroy them by public shame?

#### How do we make cover decisions?

- 1. See detailed church discipline document.
- 2. Circumspect wisdom looks at all angles.
- 3. Prudence avoids even contingent factors.
- 4. Order is scripture, wisdom, then soul best.

We believe in the chain of command, since the Bible tells us to do so in each of the five spheres of authority, including pastors. Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake:

whether it be to the king, as supreme;

Or unto governors,
as unto them that are sent by him
for the punishment of evildoers,
and for the praise of them that do well.

I Peter 2:13-14

Honour all men.
Love the brotherhood.
Fear God.
Honour the king.

I Peter 2:17

Churches have a chain of command, from Jesus Christ our Head to His pastor to you the members, like the one for men.

But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

I Corinthians 11:3

For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.

Mark 13:34

Pastors, like fathers, are to be followed in applying scripture or ruling due to their office, purpose of life, and church covenant.

For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

Malachi 2:7

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

Hebrews 13:7

Obey them that have the rule over you,
and submit yourselves: for they
watch for your souls,
as they that must give account,
that they may do it with joy, and not with grief:
for that is unprofitable for you.

**Hebrews 13:17** 

Pastors defend decisions of the other four spheres of authority, and they should be followed in theirs.

Pastors make diligent inquisition for facts in each case, distinguish between holy and profane, and settle apparent contradictions.

If thou shalt hear say in one of thy cities, which the LORD thy God hath given thee to dwell there ... Then shalt thou enquire, and make search, and ask diligently; and, behold, if it be truth, and the thing certain, that such abomination is wrought among you; Thou shalt surely smite the inhabitants of that city....

Deuteronomy 13:12-18

And they shall teach my people
the difference between the holy and profane,
and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.
And in controversy they shall stand in judgment;
and they shall judge it according to my judgments:
and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine
assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths.

Ezekiel 44:23-24

Faithful churches pray for God to rid them of strange children, for hypocrites bring a curse like Achan did and restrict God's blessings.

Send thine hand from above;
rid me, and deliver me out of great waters,
from the hand of strange children;
Whose mouth speaketh vanity,
and their right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

Psalm 144:7-8

# Rid me, and deliver me <u>from the hand of strange children</u>, whose mouth speaketh vanity, and their right hand is a right hand of falsehood:

Psalm 144:11

That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace: That our garners may be full, affording all manner of store: that our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets: That our oxen may be strong to labour; that there be no breaking in, nor going out; that there be no complaining in our streets. Happy is that people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the LORD.

Psalm 144:12-15

They also pray for recovery of excluded brethren, trusting God to save erring children back and to leave excluded reprobates out.

If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death,

he shall ask, and he shall give him life

for them that sin not unto death.

There is a sin unto death:

I do not say that he shall pray for it.

I John 5:16

Pastors present the least information needed to satisfy consciences with sure facts, to guard reputations, and simpler restoration. And of some have compassion, <u>making a difference</u>: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Jude 1:22-23

Scorners before or after exclusion are treated differently – wise men prudently reject them for proudly twisting truth to hurt reprovers.

# Cast out the scorner, and contention shall go out; yea, strife and reproach shall cease.

Proverbs 22:10

## Proud and haughty scorner is his name, who dealeth in proud wrath.

Proverbs 21:24

Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

Matthew 7:6

Fools before and after exclusion are treated differently – they are slighted and ignored for stupidity, since correction will not succeed.

## Speak not in the ears of a fool: for he will despise the wisdom of thy words.

Proverbs 23:9

# Though thou shouldest bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him.

Proverbs 27:22

We do not instantly forgive penitents. They need proof of repentance; words are cheap. Corinth's fornicator suffered for some time.

For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge!

In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

II Corinthians 7:11

Churches should recommit to their church covenant when they receive new members, so none can claim ignorance of duties later.

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

I Corinthians 1:10

Practicing Bible discipline and separation as taught in Bible will bring persecution from the compromisers of these perilous times.

Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

II Timothy 3:12-13

In a sinful world of sinners to work with, imperfect judgment, like imperfect authority, is better than no judgment or authority.

Then spake Jesus to the multitude,
and to his disciples, saying,
The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat:
All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe,
that observe and do; but do not ye after their works:
for they say, and do not.

Matthew 23:1-3

Though Jesus blasted the Pharisees throughout His ministry, this order to obey them should be grasped.

All human spheres of authority are imperfect, from parents to kings, but the office is to be obeyed and respectfully honored.

Since knowledge grows over time for all, pastors will allow differences not spread seditiously and submission to his teaching.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Matthew 28:19-20

Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

I Corinthians 15:12

God is merciful to pastoral sins of ignorance, though no pastor can presume on mercy by neglecting conscientious inquiry and study.

## But the high places were not removed: nevertheless Asa's heart was perfect with the LORD all his days.

I Kings 15:14

Take heed unto thyself,
and unto the doctrine;
continue in them:
for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself,
and them that hear thee.

I Timothy 4:16

Churches do not vote to exclude; King Jesus has already ruled; churches execute His laws, so it is unanimous ... they vote about carpet!

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

II Thessalonians 3:6

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

I Corinthians 1:10

Our relations with others should emphasize the righteous over the wicked and church members over those outside the church.

# Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me.

Psalm 101:6

# As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 6:10

For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

Hebrews 6:10

## **Due Process Conclusion**

We have for 44 years obeyed the Bible very closely, by detailed exposition, consistent application, and proven humility to change if God shows us a tsunami for new truth.

## For Further Study

- Church Discipline (long and detailed with case studies) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2000/church-discipline/
- Review of Church Discipline (I Cor 5 and II Thess 3) ... <a href="https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2005/review-of-church-discipline/">https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2005/review-of-church-discipline/</a>.
- Treatment of Excluded Brethren (sermon outline) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2007/treatment-of-excluded-brethren/.
- A Minister's Handbook (miscellaneous topics) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/rules-for-ministers.pdf.
- 2) 3) 4) 5) 6) 7) 8) The Bible and Authority (all five spheres) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-1991/ordinance-of-authority/.
- I Magnify Mine Office (pastoral authority) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2012/magnify-mine-office/.
- Miriam and Korah (rebels against Moses) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2012/miriam-and-korah/.
- Eli & Sons (compromising authority) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2002/eli-and-sons/.
- 9) Good Men with Bad Children (Bible examples) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2017/good-men-with-bad-children/.
- Bible Separation (a rule for the children of God) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2003/biblical-separation/.
- Baptism Age Is Important Wisdom (slides) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2016/baptism-of-children-2/.
- Psalm 101 (David's commitment to separation) ... <a href="https://letgodbetrue.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/psalm-101.pdf">https://letgodbetrue.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/psalm-101.pdf</a>. *12)*
- Psalm 144 (David's prayer against strange children) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2007/psalm-144/. 13)
- The 'R' Factor (value and definition of repentance) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/repentance-factor.pdf.
- Three Daily Choices (hot, cold, or lukewarm) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/three-choices-of-faith.pdf.
- Belly Worshippers (carnal Christians in churches) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2001/belly-worshippers/. *16)*
- They Promise Them Liberty (compromising pastors) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2004/they-promise-them-liberty/. *17)*
- Importance of Inputs (corrupting influences that ruin men) ... <a href="https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2014/inputs/">https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2014/inputs/</a>. 18)
- Pride (a terrible sin that leads to rebellion and self-righteousness) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2004/pride-again/. 19)
- 20) Self-Righteousness (one of the worst sins) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2015/the-worst-sin/.
- Bitterness (unresolved offences will destroy) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2000/bitterness-will-destroy-you/. 21)
- Priorities of Fearful Pastors (I Cor 3) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2022/priorities-of-fearful-pastors-1/. 22)
- 23) Priorities of Fearful Pastors (I Cor 4) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2022/priorities-of-fearful-pastors-1/
- Rebaptism and Reordination ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2019/rebaptism-reordination/ 24)
- Church Purity (outline without audio sermon) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2020/church-purity/ 25)
- Church Purity (PPT sermons; 230 slides) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2023/church-purity-1/ 26)
- 27) Church Purity (PPT sermons; 230 slides) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2023/church-purity-2/
- Church Purity (PPT sermons; 230 slides) ... https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2023/church-purity-3/ 28)