Sheep Don't Hang with Goats in the Church

Part 2 Avoiding distorted church attenders, 2 Timothy 3:2-5 Chris Mueller 12-2-2018

Introduction:

1-5 But <u>realize</u> this, that in the <u>last days difficult</u> times will come. 2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, 4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; <u>Avoid</u> such men as these.

#1 Be aware of growing <u>D</u>

1 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.

#2 Watch out for dangerous D

2 For men will be <u>lovers</u> of self, <u>lovers</u> of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 <u>unloving</u>, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, 4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, <u>lovers</u> of pleasure rather than <u>lovers</u> of God, 5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power

1st Bad <u>LOVING</u>

2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money3 unloving,4 lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God

2nd Sick

BOASTFUL:

ARROGANT:

CONCEITED:

3rd Evil

REVILERS:

Mark 7:21-22 For from within, out of the heart of men proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness.

Revelation 13:5-6 ...was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and <u>blasphemies</u>....And he opened his mouth in <u>blasphemy</u> against God, to <u>blaspheme</u> His name.

DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS:

MALICIOUS GOSSIPS:

BRUTAL:

TREACHEROUS:

Matthew 10 and 24 brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents, and cause them to be put to death. And you will be hated by all on account of My name.

_in church attenders 2-5a

in the Church 1

4th Heart _

2 For men will be <u>lovers</u> of self, <u>lovers</u> of money, <u>boastful</u>, <u>arrogant</u>, <u>revilers</u>, <u>disobedient</u> to <u>parents</u>, <u>ungrateful</u>, <u>unholy</u>, 3 <u>unloving</u>, <u>irreconcilable</u>, <u>malicious</u> gossips, <u>without</u> self-control, <u>brutal</u>, <u>haters</u> of good</u>, 4 treacherous, <u>reckless</u>, <u>conceited</u>, <u>lovers</u> of pleasure rather than <u>lovers</u> of God, 5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power;

UNGRATEFUL:

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against...not honor Him as God or give thanks...

UNHOLY:

IRRECONCILABLE:

WITHOUT SELF-CONTROL:

HATERS OF GOOD:

RECKLESS:

5th Religious

5a holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power

Matthew 23:25 For you clean the <u>outside</u> of the cup and of the dish, but <u>inside</u> they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. Titus 1:16 They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him

#3 Be responsible to **D** from this type of Church people 5b

5b Avoid such men as these

AVOID

Commentator John Philips states it this way We should steer clear of such sanctimonious moralists because their case is hopeless. All of this rings counter to modern thinking, which favors compromise. We are urged to make common cause with anyone who professes to be religious. The emphasis is on ecumenical unity. Paul foresaw that ecumenism would be a characteristic of the end times and warned against it. Christians who know the power of God in their lives should distance themselves from people who don't, no matter what they profess and regardless of the fact that the biblical doctrine of separation is out of vogue.

Take Home

- A. Paul is not commanding Timothy to stay away from the sinning unsaved, but Paul is commanding Timothy to stay away from sinning
- B. Paul has given Timothy three **GUIDELINES** for identifying false and real
- C. Paul teaches Timothy how to deal with churchy
- D. The sins of this passage demand our **REPENTANCE**
- E. Paul makes a crucial ______ about genuine Christians and the phony believer

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

- 1. What does this passage teach you about true assurance of salvation, especially as it relates to ongoing sin?
- 2. Which one of the sins above do you think is most dominant in Christian churches, our church and your life?
- 3. What indicators did this sermon give you when it came to identifying the FALSE teacher or FALSE believer?
- 4. How do you as a Christian, and we as a church, resist becoming the goat-like attender described in this passage?
- 5. What does this passage teach you about our Lord Jesus Christ? Is He the opposite of all the sins listed here?
- 6. How do genuine believers AVOID men described in this passage if they are close friends or family members?
- 7. What steps will you take to repent of the dominant sin from this passage in your life?