

Verses about Separation

“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.” II Cor. 6:14-18

“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.” Eph. 5:11-12

“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. ... 13 But them that are without God judgment. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked

“Separation from the wrong influences is not so much isolation, but more insulation from the damaging affects of sin.”

person.” I Cor. 5:11-13

“Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.” I Cor. 10:21

Seek the Higher Things

C. H. Spurgeon

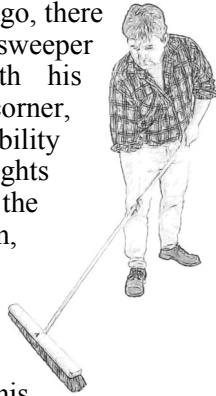
Some years ago, there was a crossing-sweeper in Dublin, with his broom, at the corner, and in all probability his highest thoughts were to keep the crossing clean, and look for the few pennies the job earned.

One day, a lawyer put his hand upon his shoulder, and said to him, “My good fellow, do you know that you are heir to a fortune of ten thousand pounds a year?”

“Do you mean it?” he asked.

“I do,” the lawyer answered. “I have just received the information; I am sure you are the man.”

Continued on Page 3



Sign-up for the weekly, e-mail version of The Bible View at:
www.OpenThouMineEyes.com



When Wrong Advice is Heeded

Bill Brinkworth

The Bible repeatedly warns believers to be careful of the company they keep. The wrong influences often point a Christian in the wrong direction and quite often hurt a Christian's testimony and closeness with the Lord. What we learn, or are told, by the wrong pressures can direct us into making wrong decisions that we may regret.

Here are some of the many biblical instances where a child of God was negatively affected by choosing the wrong associates and listening to their counsel:

☞ Adam did what his wife told him to do, rather than obey God's commandment, and it cost him and every person since, death and the heartaches of sin (Gen. 3).

☞ Aaron succumbed to the pressure from the people around him, and made an idol. Because of that sin, many people died (Exodus 12).

☞ Aaron and Miriam talked

together against God's man, Moses. God punished Miriam with leprosy (Numbers 12).

Continued on Page 2

The White Suit and the Painted Closet

Bill Brinkworth

Wiggling Willie was known to wiggle or jiggle just about every part of his body — constantly. There was seldom a second that something on his five-year old body was not twitching or twirling; except perhaps when he was sleeping.

On one particular day, he was dressed for his part in his sister's wedding. He was dressed in a white tuxedo: white shirt, white trousers, white socks, white tie, white shoes; everything was white.

As he awaited his part with the wedding party, he smelled something that would peak any

Continued on Page 3



When Wrong Advice ...

Bill Brinkworth

☞ Ten spies did not have their faith in God, as did Joshua and Caleb, and thus aroused fear among their people (Numbers 14).

☞ Many times the children of Israel suffered the wrath of God because they listened to the murmuring and complaining of the other people and jointly rebelled against God and His leader.

☞ Most likely from the influence of living in the licentious cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, Lot's daughters were not uncomfortable with incest, and committed it with their father (Gen. 19:30-36).

☞ Dinah visited worldly girls and a terrible thing happened to her (Gen. 34:1-2).

☞ Samson picked the wrong girlfriend and ended up losing his strength, eyesight, and life (Judges 16).

☞ Saul lost his position as king when he chose to do as the peo-

ple wanted, rather than to obey the Lord's commandments to destroy the Amalekites and their belongings (I Samuel 15).

☞ Amnon took the bad advice of his friend, Jonadab, committed sin, and ultimately lost his life because of it (II Samuel 13).

☞ Solomon's marriages to heathen wives turned his heart away from the Lord (I Kings 11:4).

☞ King Rehoboam heeded the wrong advice and reaped a rebellion of his people (I Kings 12).

☞ Simon Peter's exposure to those that were not believers pressured him into denying the Lord three times (John 18).

☞ Lying, along with her husband, Ananias, also cost Sapphira her life (Acts 5).

Too many take the wrong advice from newspaper advice columns, TV personalities, social services, psychologists, and many other sources that have not offered good, godly advice. Without question, they heed the advice given and never consider what the Lord would have them do. Most often that advice turns out to do more harm than good.

"Thus saith the Lord" about any matter should be the first concern when discerning what to do in any situation. God has successfully raised trillions of children. Seek His advice from His Word, the Bible, and seek His direction by prayer. God's advice is never wrong!

The White Suit and ...

Continued from Page 1

young man's curiosity; the unusual smell of wet paint. As he followed his nose, it led him far from adult supervision to a place that peaked his curiosity even more; the newly painted downstairs of the church. All the newly painted walls had signs warning that the paint was wet, but for the non-reading investigator, they may just as well have said, "Please Touch Me." That is exactly what Willie did.

His finger touched and rubbed the slow drying beige paint. The most alluring temptation, however, was the small, also freshly painted, clothes closet. In he stepped to examine what the inside of the closet was like, and yes, he closed the door. The twisting, squirming, exploring body, brushed up against the back wall, the side walls, and finally the inside of the door as he grappled for the doorknob. As he managed to exit from his dark, newly painted adventure, he was not the same clean boy that first entered the closet.

As can be imagined, the color of his clothing was altered — greatly. The wet paint had rubbed off and was imbedded in his hair, hands, clothing, and shoes; nothing was not affected.

All are affected in much the same manner when exposed to sin. Be it in through the eyes, hearing, taste, or touch, once sin is experienced it is im-

"NO ONE 'gets away' with sin!"

bedded into one's mind. Once sin has stained one's memory, it will be remembered and battled for the rest of one's life. That is why God's advice is never to be exposed to sin in the first place; be separated far from it. No matter who you are, no one can avoid the consequences of exposure to sin. Stay away from it or have a life-time of regrets!

Seek the Higher Things

Continued from Page 4

The now wealthy man walked away, and forgot his broom. Are you surprised? Who would not have left his broom, when suddenly made possessor of ten thousand pounds a year? So, I pray that some poor sinners, who have been thinking of the pleasures of the world, when they hear that there is hope and that there is heaven to be had, will forget the deceitful pleasures of sin, and follow after higher and better things.

"Why would a child of God, who is on the winning side, find it necessary to walk, talk, think, dress, or act like the losing side that is headed for hell?"

"Maybe you should take the advice of people that love you and are concerned for your well-being; when they warn you to stay away from a person or group of people!"