**Men Not Need In The Church**

Intro: In 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 Paul likens the church to a body. The body has different members but all members are important and needed (1 Cor. 12:22-23 “Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: 23And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness”). However, there are some types of men who are not needed in this congregation nor in any other congregation of the Lord’s church. The reason is that they hamper the harmony and retard the work and growth of the church. Let us notice some of these.

I. **Dictators Like Diotrephes**
   A. **Diotrephes**
      1. 3 John 9 “I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.”
      2. He wanted the pre-eminence.
      3. He did not care about the trouble he caused the church.
   B. **These are sowers of discord.**
      1. Pro. 6:16-19 “These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: 17A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, 18An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, 19A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.”
      2. Jam. 3:14-16, 18 “But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. 15This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. 16For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work....18And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.”
      a. Vine defines strife as: “denotes ambition, self-seeking, rivalry, self–will being an underlying idea in the word; hence it denotes party–making.”
      b. It is someone motivated by self-interest who causes contentions and division.
   C. **In judgmental matters the elders have the rule.**
      1. Heb. 13:17 “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.”
      a. Obey is to give up to, comply with, or yield to. Vine says, “to be persuaded, to listen to, to obey...The obedience suggested is not by submission to authority, but resulting from persuasion.”
      b. Submit is to yield under, to give way, to yield to the authority and admonition of another.
      2. The result of our submission is peace; 1 The. 5:12-13 “And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. And be at peace among yourselves.”
   D. **These try to run the church.**
      1. They are like the elder brother in Luke 15:25-32 “Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. 26And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. 27And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. 28And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. 29And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: 30But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. 31And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.”
2. Whatever they cannot run, they destroy.

II. **THE ENVIOUS AND JEALOUS LIKE JOSEPH’S BROTHERS.**

A. **Joseph’s brothers.**
   2. Joseph’s brothers hated him.
      a. Joseph was favored by his father and God gave him dreams of his dominion.
      b. Gen. 37:11 “And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.”
      c. His brothers planned on killing him, and finally sold him into slavery because of their envy and jealousy.
      d. Acts 7:9 “And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him,”

B. **Some are jealous and envious when others are noticed and favored today.**
   1. Bro. Marshall Keeble told why we couldn’t have a Billy Graham in our brotherhood; we don’t want anybody to get that popular.
   2. 1 Cor. 3:3 “For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?”
   3. Tit. 3:3 “For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.”
   4. Gal. 5:26 “Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.”

III. **MEN OF WRATH LIKE CAIN.**

A. **Cain.**
   1. Gen. 4.
   2. Able offered an acceptable sacrifice to God, while God did not respect Cain’s.
   3. Cain slew his brother.

B. **He had a destructive attitude.**
   1. Some will cut down the right to let error prevail.
   2. Some will destroy the objective standard instead of trying to measure up to that standard.

IV. **MEN WHO LOVE THE WORLD MORE THAN THEY LOVE THE CHURCH LIKE DEMAS.**

A. **Demas.**
   1. At one time he was a fellow-worker with Paul, Phm. 24 “Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers.”
   2. 2 Tim. 4:10 “For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.”

B. **There are those who love God more than the world.**
   1. Heb. 11:24-25 “By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;”
   2. Phi. 3:4, 7-8 “Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:... ‘But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. ‘Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge
of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but
dung, that I may win Christ."

C. **The world tries to get Christians to conform to its standard.**
1. Rom. 12:1-2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your
bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2And be not
conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove
what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”
2. 1 Tim. 5:22 “Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men’s sins: keep thyself
pure.”
3. 1 John 2:15-17 “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the
world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the
lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17And the world passeth
away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”
4. Jam. 4:4 “Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity
with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”

D. **Yet, all types of immorality can be found, even in the church.**
1. We are to come out of the world and be separate.
   a. 2 Cor. 6:17 “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord,
and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you;”
   b. Rev. 18:4 “And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people,
that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”
2. If we are not willing to separate ourselves from the world, we should get out; Rev.
3:15-16 “I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. 16So
then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.”
3. We cannot serve both; Mat. 6:24 “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the
one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God
and mammon.”

V. **THOSE WHO TURN BACK LIKE JOHN MARK.**

A. **John Mark.**
1. John Mark went on the first missionary tour with Paul and Barnabas.
2. He did not continue with them but left them in the work.
   a. Acts 13:13 “Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga
in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.”
   b. It is useless to speculate as to why he did not continue.

B. **Many people begin the Christian life, but turn back.**
1. Luke 9:62 “And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking
back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”
2. 2 Pet. 2:20-22 “For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge
of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end
is worse with them than the beginning. 21For it had been better for them not to have known the way
of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto
them. 22But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own
vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.”

C. **We need men who will not only begin but will continue to the end.**
1. Luke 14:28-33 “For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth
the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? 29Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and
is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him. 30Saying, This man began to build, and
was not able to finish. 31Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first,
and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with
twenty thousand? 32Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and
VI. Those Who See Other’s Faults But Not Our Own Like David.

A. David; 2 Sam. 11-12

1. David’s men are off to war; he has stayed home.
2. He sees Bathsheba the wife of Uriah the Hittite, and takes her.
3. David tries to hide the affair but cannot so he finally has Uriah killed in battle.
4. Nathan the prophet informs him of a rich man who has many sheep who takes a poor man’s one ewe lamb to feed a traveler.
5. David said the man should be put to death.
6. He could see the fault of the rich man but did not see his until Nathan said, “Thou art the man.”

B. Hypocritical judging is sinful.

1. Mat. 7:1-5 “Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother’s eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother’s eye.”

   a. The reason so-and-so did this was....
   b. The reason so-and-so is coming to worship is...

2. We are to confess our own faults, not others.

   a. Jam. 5:16 “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”
   b. 1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

VII. Those Who Love Money More Than The Lord Like Judas.

A. Judas Iscariot.

1. He was one of the ones chosen by our Lord to be one of the twelve apostles.
2. Mat. 26:14-16 “Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.”

B. Many today sell out Jesus and the church.

1. Consider our giving upon the first day of the week.
   a. God has commanded us to give.
   b. 1 Cor. 16:1-2 “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.”
   c. 2 Cor. 9:6-7 “But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.”

2. Statistics
   a. At one time we ranked in 3rd place in our giving (only the Catholics and Jehovah’s Witnesses gave more).
   b. Now we are not even listed in the top 30.
c. Some have recorded that we spend more money on tobacco and dog food than we do the Great Commission.

3. Mal. 3:8 “Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.”

C. **We are to lay up treasures in heaven not on the earth.**

1. Mat. 6:19-21 “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

2. Luke 12:15, 20-21 “And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth....20But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? 21So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

**VIII. The Self-Righteous Like The Pharisee**

A. **The Pharisee.**

1. Luke 18:9-14 “And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 10Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. 11The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. 12I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. 13And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. 14I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.”

a. Consider his good points:
   (1) Prayed to God daily.
   (2) Deeply religious in fasting.
   (3) Gave his tithes.
   (4) Lived a good moral life.

b. He trusted in himself. Luke 18:9 “And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:”

2. **Like the elder son;** Luke 15:29-30 “And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: 30But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.”

B. **How often are we like him?**

1. We rely on our own works of righteousness.
   a. Denominations have done this as opposed to God’s plan of salvation.
   b. Do we do this instead of relying on God’s grace?

2. We rely on our attending services, our baptism, how much we give, etc.

3. **We should remember:**
   a. Isa 64:6 “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”
   b. Luke 17:10 “So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.”

Conclusion: These types of people are like a cancer to the body, they are not needed by the church. The church must separate itself from these people. Individuals who fall into these categories must repent of their wickedness and return to God.