

## **II Corinthians 6:14 – 7:1 How To Be Separate From The World So You Can Be Light To The World 3/28/2026**

Paul will discuss how to live, pleasing to God, in a sinful world. How to not allow the ways of the world to enter into your heart. This is something that faces us every day.

**Text: I Corinthians 6:14-7:1**

**6:14** "Unequally yoked" Deuteronomy 22:10 / Leviticus 19:19. Animals, grain, clothing. ( All external things to remind them. Not the great intrinsic realities we have as New Testament believers.) The idea of pure was important for them to learn the lessons of separation in a theocracy.

**Ex.** Unequally yoked could be a business partner, or other associations that cause you to compromise. The most obvious, and the closest relationship of unequally yoked is **marriage**.

**Ex.** Ezra 9:2/ Nehemiah 13:25 Israel was taught to be different from the nations around them. The Bible separates by nation, and not by race. It was the "ways" of foreign nations; their immorality and idol worship that would pollute God's people.

**Ex** If a mixed marriage today, as believers, there are very hopeful instructions -I Corinthians 7 and I Peter 3.

**6:15-16** I Cor. 3:16/ 6:19 We are the permanent temple of God!

**6:17** Many have attempted to do this by **physical separation**. This is not the point of the message to the Corinthians, or to us. There is no place to go to be physically separated.

**Ex.** John 17: 15 "I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one."

**Ex.** I Corinthians 5:9-13 It takes awareness and vigilance to be different from the world, but if we really love them we have to be the light to them.

**I Corinthian 15: 30-34** Apparently Paul's instruction was not completely followed.

**Ex.** Old sayings; "Your life is speaking so loud; I cannot hear a word you are saying." "You are the only Bible your neighbors and friends and co-workers are reading."

**Ex.** Augustine (415 A.D.) "The best men, and the worst men I ever met; I met in a monastery."

**Ex.** Peter had to learn what real defilement was. It was not food, and it was not a Gentile who would soon be saved ( Cornelius), or from Gentiles who were saved. **Acts: 10:14-15** and later in **Galatians 1:11-21**, he had to learn again. Peter **physically separates** from Gentiles, but they are as righteous as he was because of Christ!

**Ex. Mark 7: 14-23** Jesus declared all foods clean. Separate your heart from worldliness.

**Ex.** In church you have the strangest gathering of people possible. Every other meeting in the world is usually like-minded people. ( Schools- teachers and students, business, clubs, sports, associations.) In church it is every possible background, age, culture are about growing in Christ! Remember the biggest barrier ever was Jew to Gentile, but now all one in Christ! (Check Ephesians ch. 2-3 and Galatians 3 for example.)

**6:18** The family of God! We are the temple of God, but should never separate ourselves from the family of God; the body of Christ!

**Ex. Seminary sometimes called, "Cemetery"** by students. Can become sterile if you miss out on fellowship with a church, and not just fellow students where there is instant understanding of the things you are learning. Church is a supernatural thing created by God!

**Ex. Arthur Pink-** 20 years did not go to church! Beneath him!

**Ex. Hebrews 10:24-25** Today , we are breeding arrogance of knowledge alone via isolation and the comfort of our homes, when we could have vital Holy Spirit inspired fellowship!

**7:1 "The fear of the Lord"** – Simply put: More concerned about pleasing God than the world.

The world can get pretty loud, but it never gets more truthful!

**"Let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit; perfecting holiness in the fear of God."**

**Share Time Question:** : So how do we progressively do this?