

Don't Dance With The Devil

4-3-22

2 John 10–11 (ESV) **O/H**

¹⁰ If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house or give him any greeting, ¹¹ for whoever greets him takes part in his wicked works.

It was an absolute demand that brothers in Christ be supported, fed, and housed by the local congregations they visited. In context of 2John, he is dealing with those proclaiming to be Christians yet are truly deceivers and antichrists. These false prophets, antichrists, and deceivers are not to share in the provision of Christian hospitality. Even the Christian greetings that might be given ever so casually are forbidden in the case of these deceivers. One cannot be a partner of God and a partner of the devil.

1 Corinthians 10:20 (ESV)

I do not want you to be participants (fellowship, partner) with demons.

“Whoever greets a deceiver takes part (fellowship, partner) in his wicked works.” This advice may sound unloving, but it is not. This necessary to prevent deceivers from spreading a teaching that would destroy the heart of Christianity. The Christian church has the responsibility to draw lines which “exclude teaching and practice it deems out of harmony with the revelation of Scripture”. Yet we must always share truth in love.

Ephesians 4:15 (ESV)

Speak the truth in love.

We speak the truth in love, but we also have the godly conviction to stand without wavering for our faith. Standing strong we ask ourselves, “How flexible can the perimeters of Christian belief be without sacrificing the integrity of faith itself?” The Scripture teach us to love yet never to waver standing on the Word of God.

Romans 16:17 (ESV)

I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them.

We are not condemning anyone. Deceivers are condemning themselves. We only identify the truth of Scripture.

Titus 3:10–11 (ESV)

¹⁰ As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, ¹¹ knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

No one can claim to be a Christian and say, “I am a thief, homosexual, transgender, but Christ can’t change me into HIS image.” This proclaiming Christian is a deceiver “denying” the power of Christ. Avoid such people.

2 Timothy 3:5 (ESV)

(These people) have the appearance of godliness, but deny its power. Avoid such people.

God is clearly addressing proclaiming Christians who are deceivers and not the unbelieving sinners of this world.

1 Corinthians 5:9–11 (ESV)

⁹ I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— ¹⁰ not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. ¹¹ But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one.

God clearly state that in order not to associate with sinners we would need to go out of the world. However, proclaiming Christians that are deceivers, we must avoid. Thus, we know when we Dance with the Devil, we support their wicked works.

Let us look at the other side of the coin. Just as our fellowship and support with the deceiver makes us a partner in his wicked works, also our fellowship and support with true Christian workers makes us a partner in their righteous works. Also, by being hospitable and helping those that are doing the ministry of Christ, we share in their eternal rewards.

Philippians 4:15 (ESV) **O/H**

And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only.

They aided and were in partnership with that Christian ministry. By being in partnership with the ministry, they will receive the same eternal rewards as those actually carrying out the ministry.

Philippians 4:17–19 (ESV) **O/H**

¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. ¹⁸ ... Having received ... the gifts you sent, ... acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

When Paul received the gift, his total excitement was because of the increase that would come to the givers. Paul communicates a powerful message to the person who supports Christian ministry. The Biblical clearly states to the believer that gives, “My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”

Don’t Dance With The Devil, but go to every party with Jesus.

We stand on solid ground!

1 Corinthians 2:2 (ESV) **O/H**

For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.