2Thess #164

Separate yourself from the devil’s world.

Sometime between now and February 15 - I have to take a full day off, to drop my computer off at Staples to keep my warranty and virus program up to date – it’s coming up on the one anniversary when I bought it!

I’ll announce this in advance.

Open up today in 1John chapter two RF.

As we dig slightly deeper into the Doctrine of Separation, fully understanding the doctrine and how or why and even when to apply it is very important.

Our current anchor study is pointing out the extreme case as we just noted in 1Corinthians chapter 5 as well;

/2Thes 3:6 Now **we command you**, brothers *and sisters,* in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that **you keep away from every brother *or sister* who leadsa disorderly**(*ataktōs*)**life**and not one in with the tradition which you received from us.

This is a Bel who has gone negative and they continue to backslide. They are unruly, they are displaying rebellion to the point that they are disruptive.\

ART-TOK-TOES, this is what I mentioned before, a solider walking out of line - they break formation and disobey orders blatantly.

 This is very similar with what the Apostle Paul commanded at Corinth.

You cannot apply this level of separation all the time – that simply shows you are a weak Bel! You are the one sinning alongside of the person you are separating from.

/1Cor 5:11 But actually, I wrote to you **not to associate with any so-called** (*onomazō*) **brother** (*adelphos*) if he is a sexually immoral person, or a greedy person, or an idolater, or is verbally abusive, or habitually drunk, or a swindler—not even to eat with such a person.

A country man, a relative or close brother in name only. They may well be related to you, yet they are no longer following protocol. They have gone beyond a casual mistake or common error and they have entered into a form of rebellion.\

ON-AMOD-ZO ADEL-FASS, even if they are brethren and this also means - many simply use the name – Christian, but may truly be Unbels. This means maybe they are and maybe they are not – that is not the issue.

Their lifestyle of rebellion against the truth is the glaring factor.

 REPEAT

/A true Christian is able to remain steadfast in their relationship with GOD much easier around an Unbel who respects establishment principles, law and order and core Biblical standards. Then to be affiliated with an apostate Believer. In many cases, the Christian who associates closely to a backsliding Bel as they begin a journey into apostasy, will become adversely effected more so than an association with an establishment-minded Unbel.\

This is also matters for a Bel at certain levels of maturity.

A new Bel or a weak Believer is much easier influenced and led astray then a Bel with at least a basic level of spiritual autonomy.

Now in these three letters from the Apostle John, he keeps addressing CA Bels – he writes to the little children, meaning Believers.

These are very affectionate words written in relation to spiritual struggles, dealing with rebounding back from sin and walking in the new nature.

/1Jhn 2:15 **Do not love the world nor the things in the world**. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

When a Believer loves the world and things (ideologies) of the world, they are not having true intimacy with God the Father. To have intimacy with the FATHER is to have intimate knowledge and acceptance of HIS PLAN!\

From the viewpoint of the Doctrine of Separation this is how a Believer can understand when the doctrine needs attention in their life.

/When a Christian has people (Bels or Unbels) within their intimate circle of family and friends, who love the ways of the world, that is the strongest and easiest clue to discern that they may need to apply the doctrine of separation. It is not a call to drastic measures, but an alert for deeper prayer and attention in relation to that relationship.\

[1Jo 2:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/2/16/s_1161016) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

/The world (cosmic system) is that organized system which acts as a rival to the plan of God. It is a physical, ideological and spiritual system designed to draw people away from God. It is a seductive system that appeals to all people, Believers as well as Unbelievers, and calls for our affection, participation, and loyalty, Satan controls this system. It is driven by three primary factors, Lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh and an overwhelming desire to become sovereign over our own Creator.\

The boastful pride of life is what enticed the original man and woman in the garden to partake of the forbidden fruit.

It is a core of the OSN – a strong desire to be our own little god, therefore rebelling against the true GOD.

That core trait deep within the OSN is seen every time anyone (Bel or Unbel) steps away from the truth of GOD, the plan of God in any fashion. It is loudly stating, I know your plan and your WORD tell me not to do this - but I will do it my way over your way GOD.

 REPEAT

[1Jo 2:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/2/17/s_1161017) The world is passing away and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God continues *to live* forever.

The ignition point, before the end of this world as we know it… was lite at the cross of Jesus Christ.

The world as we now know it - is passing away.

/The Believer becomes an invisible hero as they partake of the journey into spiritual maturity and they will reap benefits of authority in the heavens. Fellowship is intimacy and intimacy has depth - the true Bels do the WILL OF GOD and HE will reward those who have diligently sought HIM out. Your intimacy with GOD now has eternal value.\

[1Jo 2:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/2/18/s_1161018) Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.

God’s timetable and our human timetable are extremely different - GOD calls the Church Age the last hour, because after the Rapture everything will change in a very dramatic fashion.

/[1Jo 2:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/2/19/s_1161019) **They went out from us, but they were not *really* of us**; for if they had been of us, **they would have remained with us;** but *they went out,* so that it **would be evident that they all are not of us**.

God has a way of revealing who is truly on a journey toward SM. And who is either the Unbel, or negative Bel amongst the inner circle of a serious Christian’s temporal life.\

God shows us as we grow, who is good for our spiritual walk and who is detrimental.

We need to grow up and pay attention.

[1Jo 2:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/2/20/s_1161020) But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know.

/[1Jo 2:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1jo/2/21/s_1161021) I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because **you do know it, and because no lie is of the truth**.

All Christians become responsible for their decisions and fellowship choices. When the Bel refuses to grow and become serious within the WORD, they are rejecting their calling from GOD.\

This type of Bel never gains enough discernment to know how and when to use a doctrine like separation.

Therefore, it is very common in Christian circles to have bad influences and cosmic viewpoint deeply infecting churches and fellowship groups, friendships and differing types of ministries.

Jump over to Romans chapter 16.

/Separation from reversionism is very pertinent. Reversionism is negative volition toward doctrine in any form. Many religious people are in reversionism. Legalism, emotionalism and immorality can all be signals of a Bel heading backward. Just as hyper morality (religious arrogance), is a sign of reversionism. These types of Christians often have profound, negative effects on weak Believers.\

When Christians go deeper into reversionism and end up in apostasy, they not only can influence you in a negative way – they may become real enemies in your personal life.

/1Sam 22:1 So **David departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam;** and when his brothers and all his father’s household heard *about it,* they went down there to him.

David had to be on the run for years, from a Bel in authority (King Saul). There are extreme times, we need to physically isolate away from those negative influences and outside attacks.\

Each person and each circumstance need special evaluation. Sometimes the extreme cases call for a measure as seen in the life of David.

Separate from Believers who make emotion the criterion for their Christian Walk. They are going to enter into some system of pseudo spirituality, or become very unglued and unstable at some point.

 REPEAT

These types of emotional Christians will almost always kick against accurate Bible teaching – they become frustrated with academic, theological approaches to the WORD.

 REPEAT

Emotional Bels can become capable of great violence and criminality – just like the Unbel driven by lust patterns of the soul.

Now in Romans…There are really great doctrines covered by the Apostle Paul like justification, Imputed Righteousness, recovery from sin, sanctification, many aspects of the Christian way of life – very solid theology.

As he closes this letter, he gives a very stern warning.

 /Rom 16:17 Now I urge you, brothers *and sisters,* **keep your eye**(*skopeō*) **on those who cause dissensions and hindrances** contrary to the teaching which you learned, and **turn away from them**.

To pay close attention, to keep a mark or make a serious observation. It is not a call into aggressive action or becoming a busybody.\

SKO-PAY-O, it is one of the root words we get the English word - SCOPE from.

In the military, binoculars and scopes are used to mark a target and to watch enemy movement.

They are used to view the landscape in every detail and bring it all into clarity.

This is a call for alertness, not judgement and interference into the life of another.

 REPEAT

The Apostle Paul is using a present tense, indictive mood – keep on watching for this behavior, because this is a fact (indictive mood). Believers get into legalism and emotionalism and they bring trouble for many.

/Dissensions – *dichostasia,* to bring a division, to cause strife or sedition.

Hindrances – *skandalon,* a trap, a stumbling block and snare for the unsuspecting. \

DEE-HOS-TAH-SEE-HA, this means a split where there was unity, it is discord and confusion at its best.

SKAN-DA-LA, it is the same as the term stumbling block, something you don’t easily see and it trips you up, snares you and drags you down.

Again, another English word – Scandal comes from this.

/[Rom 16:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/16/18/s_1062018) **For such people are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites**; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting.

Emotional Bels often become experts at manipulating others and making people around them focus on feelings over facts.\

[Rom 16:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/16/19/s_1062019) For the report of your obedience has reached everyone; therefore I am rejoicing over you, but I want you to be wise in what is good, and innocent in what is evil.

[Rom 16:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/16/20/s_1062020) The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.

/Whether it is an emotional person or legalistic one, when they have begun to touch your life in a negative fashion, you have to take this very seriously. If your relationship with GOD is being compromised and altered because of this person, that is a valid reason to seek the doctrine of separation. First in prayer, then empathetically, approach the subject addressing the importance of your relationship with GOD and concerns you have.\

/Open, honest, conversation done with an empathic spirit after strong prayer is the quickest route to resolve the issue before it escalates. When that does not resolve it, or if the issue seems to repeat - you may need more prayer and then mental separation first before physical separation. Mental separation can be done methodically and slowly, by removing intimacy in conversations or contact with that person.\

Now with close family like your spouse or parents and children -it is a great challenge – yet it can be accomplished.

We can note this further next lesson.