**GET RID OF THE OLD YEAST**

1 Corinthians 5:1-13, Key Verse 5:7

**“Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.”**

1. What disturbing report about the Corinthian Christians did Paul receive? (1) What should they have done about it? (2b) What did they do instead? (2a) Why?

**It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that even pagans do not tolerate: A man is sleeping with his father’s wife.**

He heard the sexual immorality among the Corinthian Christians. Even the pagans of the time did not tolerate such a thing as sleeping with his father’s wife, step mother.

**2And you are proud! Shouldn’t you rather have gone into mourning and have put out of your fellowship the man who has been doing this?**

The church should mourn and help the brother to repent of their sins first individually first. If not repenting, two brothers should help. If still not repent, the church should rebuke. If not repent, have put him out of their fellowship. But it seems that they did not do so. They condoned it.

1. How had Paul immediately taken action? (3) On what basis did he do so? (4) What did he command them to do (see also verses 2b,11b,13), and why did they need to deal with this publicly? (4,5) What was the hope for the man through his punishment? (5b)

**3For my part, even though I am not physically present, I am with you in spirit. As one who is present with you in this way, I have already passed judgment in the name of our Lord Jesus on the one who has been doing this.**

He condemned them and passed judgment that they did wrong through condoning such a sin among them.

**4So when you are assembled and I am with you in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus is present, 5hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh,[**[**a**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28460a)**][**[**b**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28460b)**] so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.**

He and the Lord Jesus is with them in spirit. The Spirit cannot condone such a sin. The church is the temple the Holy Spirit can dwell.

Therefore, they should hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh.

Do not associate with anyone who claims to be brothers or sisters but lives sexually immoral, greedy, an idolater or slanderer, a drunkard or swindler.

1. The holy spirit can dwell among them.
2. His spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.
3. Other brothers and sisters are warned.
4. How did the Corinthians’ pride lead them to be negligent about this man’s sin? (6) What does yeast teach about the influence of sin within the Christian fellowship? (6)

**6Your boasting is not good. Don’t you know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough?**

Their pride led them not to deal with sin, sexual immorality.

Influence of sin will spread like yeast, making other to condone sins.

1. Read verses 7-8. What does it mean, in the church and personally, to “get rid of the old yeast” and be a “new unleavened batch”? What makes this possible for us? (7b) What is the festival we are observing and how do we keep it? (7b, 8; Ex 12:15)

**7Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.**

They should get rid of a brother or sister who sins and not repenting.

A new unleavened batch: cleansed through repentance as a church.

It can be done through the blood of Jesus Christ.

**8Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old bread leavened with malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.**

The Festival is the Festival of Unleavened bread cleansed from malice and wickedness. Remove year from your house and eat the unleavened bread for 7 days. This is the time to repent and remove our sins among the people of Israel so that God can dwell among them. The church should do the same.

1. How had they misunderstood earlier instructions from Paul? (9–10) What did he really mean? (11) How should a Christian deal with immoral people outside the church and inside the church? (11–13)

**9I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— 10not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world.**

He already wrote a letter on this matter, not to associate with sexually immoral people, which does not include people of the world

**11But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who claims to be a brother or sister[**[**c**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28466c)**] but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or slanderer, a drunkard or swindler. Do not even eat with such people.**

Paul meant that they should not associate with people who claim to be brothers and sisters in Christ but commit immoral life. Do not even eat with them.

**12What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? 13God will judge those outside. “Expel the wicked person from among you.”[**[**d**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+5&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28468d)**]**

We cannot judge people outside of Christ, telling them what is right from wrong, but we Christians should correct each other and help each one of us to repent.