

And withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly
2 Thess. 3:6

2 THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 3

25 April 2014

LESSON 13

BIBLICAL INSTRUCTION ON DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Verses 6-7 Christians are commanded to withdraw from Christians whose conduct is not in accordance with biblical commands and who are not living lives fitting a representative of Jesus Christ.

Verse 8 The disorderly conduct is specified. Your conduct is disorderly if you are not earning your own money to pay for your own food.

The church is not responsible to support Christians who refuse to work or who foolishly mismanaged their finances. We are not to spend any time with such brethren because they are poor examples of Christians (hypocrites).

Verse 9 Paul had the power to live off of voluntary contributions from Christians, but he didn't do that. He worked as a tentmaker to support himself and to be an example to others (Acts 18:3).

Verse 10 This is not talking about a Christian who CANNOT work (handicapped, etc). Christians who WILL not work—because they think they can get free food from somebody else—are to be denied food. *Don't encourage bad behavior by rewarding the bad behavior.*

Verse 11 Those who will not work become busybodies. People with too much time on their hands become involved in sinful activities. Idleness was the sin of Sodom, which led to other sins (Ezekiel 16:49).

Verse 12 Here's a command to work and eat your own bread. Too many people complain about not having a job, but the truth is they're not willing to take the jobs that are available. If welfare, disability, and generous friends would stop paying people to not work, they'd have to work.

Verse 13 ¹³ **But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.** Doing right can be tiring, especially in a corrupt society.

Verse 14 God commands us to make a note of the disorderly person and stay away from them. The purpose for doing this is to make the disorderly person ashamed of their conduct and be compelled by the right kind of peer pressure to do right. A church should not be a place where people feel okay about their sin. They should feel ashamed.

Verse 15 Christian brethren are commanded to treat the disorderly brother or sister with kindness and respect (brotherly love), while keeping a distance from them. This will protect your testimony, make that person ashamed, and hopefully draw them back into a right relationship with God and the brethren.

The church must be against all the things that the Bible is against (adultery, fornication, drinking, drugs, thievery, pride, covetousness, etc). Christians must NOT pretend that another Christian's sin is okay. That won't help them. We need to help our brothers and sisters get OUT of sin.
