

Bible reading

1 Corinthians 5

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¹ 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.

² And 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?

³ For 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.

⁴ So when you are assembled and I am with you in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus is present,

⁵ hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 5

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

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.

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

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¹⁰ not 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.

¹¹ But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who claims to be a brother or sister but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or slanderer, a drunkard or swindler. Do not even eat with such people.

¹² What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside?

¹³ God will judge those outside. “Expel the wicked person from among you.”

Purified people

'We Belong' series on 1 Corinthians

Elmer Arentsen

IBC Eindhoven

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News from 2014



A man has tied the knot with his former stepmother after winning a court ruling to overturn the ban on stepchildren and stepparents marrying.

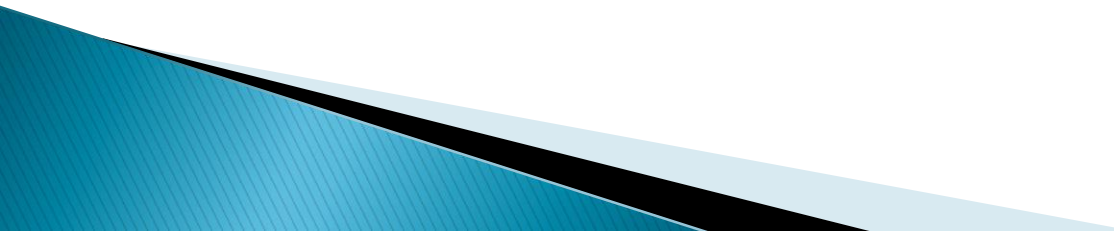
Eric Holder, 45, tied the knot with Elisabeth Lorentz, 48, in France after overturning a ban on marriage between stepchildren and stepparents during a court ruling.

The couple pleaded their case through the courts right up to the Elysee Palace, only to receive a signed letter from President Francois Hollande last year reconfirming that such marriages are banned. They finally obtained the right to marry from a local court in north-east France in June. The prosecutor's office opposed the decision but did not appeal.

Context

- ▶ Marriage(?) between a man and his father's wife
 - Not his mother
- ▶ Church accepts instead of mourns
 - Even proud: tolerant! No longer under the law
 - But even the pagans think it is inappropriate

Leviticus 18:8: Do not have sexual relations with your father's wife; that would dishonor your father.



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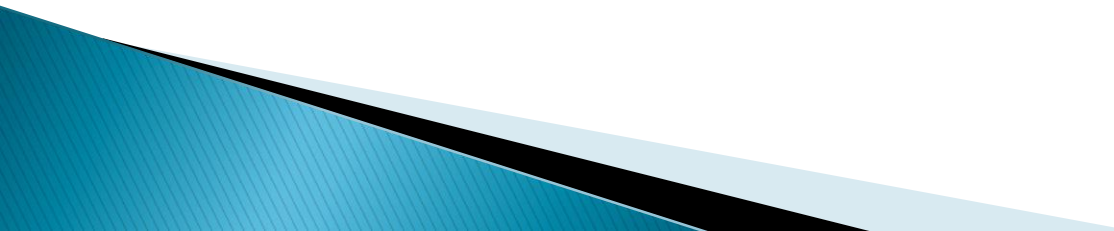
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Judge others?

Matthew 7

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

³ “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.



Church discipline

Matthew 18

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

Just for one purpose:

5:5: so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.

Repentance and restoration



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Feast of unleavened bread

- ▶ Clean the house of all possible yeast
 - ▶ One week bread without yeast
 - ▶ Starting with Passover
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- ▶ Yeast is a symbol of sin
 - ▶ And a small portion of it already affects the body!



Personal holiness

1 Peter 1:¹³ Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.” ¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

Personal holiness

- ▶ Live holy
 - With our hope on the return of Christ
 - With fear towards our old way of living
 - following God, realizing the price we've been redeemed with

- ▶ Because we are bought with an invaluable, unperishable price: the blood of Christ

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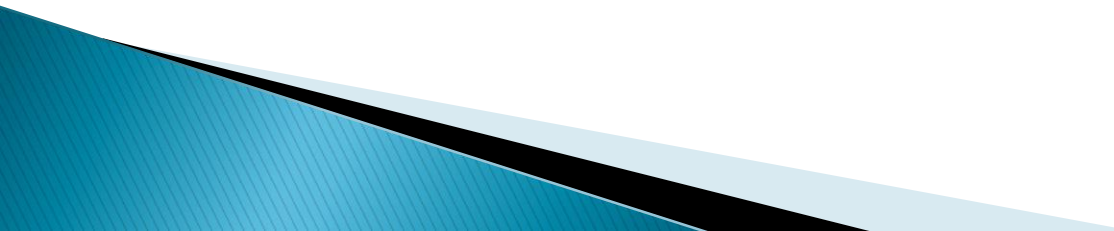
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Church holiness

▶ Ephesians 5:25b–27

just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

- ▶ Cleansed by the word of God
 - ▶ Mourns when persistent sin is found amongst it
 - ▶ Removes the evil from their midst
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Reflect

- ▶ personally
 - Is there persistent sin in my life?
 - Confess, clean house, and live holy
- ▶ as church
 - Do we provide teaching on moral issues?
 - Do we exercise church discipline if needed?
 - Do we judge for restoration, or as retribution?
- ▶ pray for our church and leaders
 - Wisdom, discernment, compassion, courage

