

The Unrighteous Shall Not Inherit the Kingdom of God

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1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

I. Know ye not...?

- A. The question put to these people by the Apostle clearly indicates that they know in their hearts these things they are doing are wrong in the sight of God, and that people who do them are not going to heaven.
- B. The church at Corinth was a lot like the churches now – most of the people of the generation who first heard the Gospel and were saved, were washed, sanctified, and justified, and did not continue in these wicked practices.
- C. Yet they tolerated these wicked things in their converts and other people, and considered themselves more spiritual, wiser, and more loving for doing so.

1 Corinthians 5:2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. ("puffed up" 5 times in 1 Corinthians)

- D. Thinking they are doing better than Paul and the other Apostles at preaching the Gospel and winning souls, they are actually oiling their slide to hell.
- E. Self-deception needs no help from foolish church members who would hug and coddle them into believing they are OK with God and headed for heaven while still practicing their sin.
 - 1. The nature of a sinner is to persist in indulging his own lusts and desires and charting his own course, even though everyone but himself can see it is obviously foolhardy, destructive, and useless. (blind, stubborn, proud)
 - 2. The unregenerate nature is a great obstacle to a sinner because he cannot convince himself that what he is doing is wrong.
 - 3. An unregenerate person is very much like a brooding hen that will sit on fake eggs until she kneels over.
 - 4. There is a flower called a stapelia that smells like dead flesh, and flies lay their eggs on it thinking they are providing for their offspring. The flies eggs are lost, while the flower just uses the flies for pollination to reproduce its noxious species (bees won't touch it to make their honey) – how much like sinners is that?
 - 5. There is a spider that when you take away its egg sac and throw it a piece of cotton it will cling to that worthless thing with the same fondness as it did to it's own offspring.
 - 6. People are so very easily deceived – from without AND from within.

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Ecclesiastes 9:3 This is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is one event unto all: yea, also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live, and after that they go to the dead.

7. They seek after vanity with much zeal and refuse to be convinced they are wrong.
8. So the worst thing that can happen to a soul is to have some professor of religion comfort them in their sin and their wicked ways, and encourage them to entertain some hope of going to heaven when they die while they continue in their sin, because the Word of God says plainly that it is NOT going to happen that way.

II. The sins named here each prove that the person is not a child of God.

- A. How can a fornicator, who sins against his own body imagine that he (or she) is at peace with God and will end up in heaven without forsaking their sin?
 1. He (or she) is made in the image of God and then take their body, that belongs to God who made it and sustains it, and uses it unlawfully for their own unholy and unclean, unbridled pleasure.
 2. It is one of most dishonorable things a person can do to God, so how can a person live in fornication, and keep repeating the act, and expect to be welcomed by God into what He has prepared for them that love Him? That is maddness (insanity)!
- B. How can an idolater, who serves and worships and honors deities that are not God, expect to be accepted with God?
 1. To give all your love and adoration and service to another and still expect to be accepted by the One to whom it all belongs is madness.
 2. A common thing about most idolatry is that it is keen on the injustices suffered by men, but unconcerned about the injustices suffered by God.
- C. How can an adulterer possibly think he is saved and on his way to heaven, when a vow means nothing to him (or her)? (and the Bible says clearly and emphatically that he won't go to heaven)
 1. To give to another what you have promised exclusively to one is lying, stealing, and covetousness altogether, plus the sin of fornication, also.
 2. It is the same as idolatry, and is just as offensive to God.
 3. To violate and disregard all the Lord has said about a man and a wife being joined together, and to mar the image of God, destroy all the lives that are touched by this sin, all for the desires of a wicked heart, how under heaven can a person continue in that kind of sin and think they are going to heaven? (But they always do!)
 4. Absolutely everything about an adulterer says he cares nothing for God.
- D. Thieves, covetous, and extortioners are all in the same species.
 1. Covetousness is nothing but theft in its early stages, and extortion is theft fully developed.
 2. Covetousness speaks very loudly of discontentment, a warped sense of justice, love of the world, supreme selfishness, and the things of the world.
 3. So "if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" how can that man expect to go to heaven when he dies?
 4. Besides all that, the Scripture calls covetousness idolatry. (Colossians 3:5)
- E. Effeminate and abusers of themselves with mankind speaks of sodomites. (homosexuals)

1. There is no explanation why a person with this kind of perverted desires would honestly think that they are going to heaven, except that they have no regard for the Word of God, or for the God who created them.
 2. They are idolaters, because they imagine God to be something He absolutely is not. (and sexual perversion is almost always a part of pagan idolatrous worship)
 3. The God who created all things and is preparing a place for those who love Him, is not about to admit those who hate Him.
- F. What does drunkenness cost you?
1. What do you lose by it — health, respect, friends, wealth, and eternal life.
 2. Drunkenness keeps you from being ashamed, profanes your self-respect, breaks down your resistance to evil; stifles your conscience.
 3. It is one of the greatest evils on earth and has wrought more destruction, death, woe, and sorrow than just about anything else. (especially if we include drugs in with it, which have the same effects and consequences)

Proverbs 23:29 Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?

4. Everything about it ruins everything about a man and if not forsaken, bars him from heaven forever.
- G. Revilers are also named here in the kinds of people who are not going to be in heaven.
1. These are people who treat other people disrespectfully.
 2. These are people who are habitually running their mouths about other people, criticizing, condemning, railing on them.
 3. It is people who talk to others with disrespect and contempt.
 4. There will be no one like that in heaven, so how can a person convince themselves that they can be that way here, and still go to heaven.
- III. If God has never done anything in your soul to deliver you permanently from sin and you are continuing in these kinds of things, you are not converted, and you have never been born again, and you will not see the kingdom of God.
- A. Jesus came to take away our sin, and that is what He does every time He saves a sinner.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

- B. A profession of faith or a sinner's prayer will not do in you what the Spirit of God does through the Word of God when faith is born in your soul.
- C. When you truly believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God you will yield to him just like Saul of Tarsus did on the road to Damascus.
- D. And when that happens you will be finished with the sinful lifestyle.
- E. It is not sinless perfection, but it is the beginning of it.

Ephesians 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

- F. Sin will no longer have dominion over you, and you will be made an overcomer.
- G. You will present your body a living sacrifice, holy, and acceptable unto God. (Romans 12:1)

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

- H. Your mind will be renewed and you will no longer be confused about what is sinful and what is not, and you will prove what is acceptable to God.
- I. Don't continue to try to deceive yourself about your soul if you are living under the dominion of sin.
- J. Don't end up in hell forever because you believe your own lies and the lies of others.
- K. Slide into this altar right now and throw yourself on the mercy of God and He will save you forever!