

When Christians Withdraw from One Another

It is our privilege to seek to glorify God by
_____ to one another.

Introduction: Conflict in the Church

2 Cor. 12:20 *For I am afraid that perhaps when I come I may find ... that perhaps there will be strife, jealousy, angry tempers, disputes, slanders, gossip, arrogance, disturbances;*

strife

jealousy

angry tempers

disputes

Gal. 5:20 *enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,*

enmities

strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes

dissensions

factions

Gal. 5:26 *Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.*

Gal. 5:15 *But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.*

James 4:1-2 *What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?*² *You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.*

Partiality from Spiritual Experience

1 Cor. 1:10-14¹⁰ *Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.*¹¹ *For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's people, that there are quarrels among you.*¹² *Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," and "I of Cephas," and "I of Christ."*¹³ *Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?*¹⁴ *I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,*¹⁵ *so that no one would say you were baptized in my name.*¹⁶ *Now I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any other.*

Partiality from Racism

John 4:9 *Therefore the Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me for a drink since I am a Samaritan woman?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)*

Partiality from Classism

James 2:1-9 *My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism.*² *For if*

*a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes,*³ *and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,"*⁴ *have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?*⁵ *Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?*⁶ *But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court?*⁷ *Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called?*⁸ *If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well.*⁹ *But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.*

Partiality from Spiritual Opinions

Romans 14:1-3 *Now accept the one who is weak in faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions.*² *One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables only.*³ *The one who eats is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat is not to judge the one who eats, for God has accepted him.*

Conclusion

Romans 15:7 *Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.*