

LIVING RIGHT

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Ephesians 5:22-30**. From Roy H. Enoch (11-14-1993).
- B. The Lord adds to the church as people are saved, and God transfers into the kingdom of His Son those delivered from darkness (Col. 1:13).
- C. These new members are purified, sanctified and clean (Eph. 5:26).
- D. They must keep their lives pure to please God (1Tim. 5:22; 1Jn. 5:18).

I. THE CHURCH IS THE BODY OF CHRIST.

- A. See Eph. 1:22-23
- B. There are many members but only one body or church (1Cor. 12:20).
- C. That body is the church (Col. 1:18).
- D. Members make up the one body (1Cor. 12:27).

II. THE CHURCH IS AS PURE AS THE LIVES OF THE MEMBERS.

- A. Members are commanded to keep their lives pure.
 - 1. Members are to “put to death” evil practices (Col. 3:5,6).
 - 2. We are “abstain” from evil (1Pet. 2:11; 1Th. 5:22).
 - 3. We must “abhor evil” (Rom. 12:9).
- B. We are told how we can maintain our purity.
 - 1. We are to obey the truth (1Pet. 1:22-23).
 - 2. We must condemn sin (2Tim. 4:2).
 - 3. Those who are overcome in sin must be restored (Gal. 6:1,2).
 - 4. Those who persist in sin must be marked and avoided (Rom. 16:17).
 - 5. We must not “keep company” w/brethren who will not repent of sin (1Cor. 5:9-13).
See also 2Th. 3:6.

III. THERE ARE MANY DANGERS CONFRONTING THE CHURCH.

- A. Many do not study the Bible regularly, not attend Bible classes.
 - 1. Some do as they please, rather than as pleases God.
 - 2. Worship becomes a matter of their convenience and ritual.
- B. Divorce/remarriage for reasons other than adultery are sometimes accepted and condoned.
 - 1. But Jesus was clear in His statement on divorce and remarriage (Mt. 19:9).
 - 2. Paul warns that sexually immoral persons will not inherit heaven (Eph. 5:5).
- C. One great danger is to accept the doctrines of men and follow tradition and custom.
 - 1. The church at Colossae was threatened by mystic religions from the East, especially Gnosticism mixed with Jewish doctrines from the Law of Moses (Col. 2:8).
 - 2. The Gentile Galatians had gone back to the Law for circumcision (Gal. 5:4).

CONCLUSION.

- A. We need to go back to the “doctrine of Christ” or we will leave God (2Jn. 9).
- B. We must stay in Christ, the church, the true vine, or we will be cut off and burned (Jn. 15:6).
- C. Let us stay in the word of God, and strive to please Him.