

## **Separate Yourselves**

2 Corinthians 6:14 – 7:1

by Don Falkos

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Corinth was a large city on a small isthmus. All land traffic in Greece moving between Macedonia in the north and the Peloponnese in the south had to pass through Corinth. Corinth was also a passage point for sea traffic bound east or west. If the ship were small enough, it would be hoisted from the water, dragged across the isthmus, and launched again on the other side. If it were too large, its cargo would be transported across to another ship.

Because of all this traffic, Corinth was an extremely wealthy and cosmopolitan city. It also had a reputation for wicked and decadent living. The temple of Aphrodite, the goddess of love, boasted a thousand sacred prostitutes. And many of the religions represented in Corinth involved activities so depraved even the Roman government refused to sanction them.

The little assembly of believers founded by Paul in Corinth was engaged in a constant struggle against immorality. Paul wrote the Corinthian believers a letter.

Don't team up with unbelievers. How can righteousness and lawlessness be partners? What companionship can there be between light and darkness? What harmony can there be between Christ and the Adversary? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? What kind of agreement can there be between God's Temple and idols? We are the Temple of the living God. God said:

Separate yourselves.  
Don't touch any unclean thing.  
Then I will be your Father,  
and you will be my children.

So let's purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body or spirit. Let's become completely holy in the fear of God.