

**Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church
We're glad you're here!**



Send the Light

Hymn 663



I Must Tell Jesus

Hymn 49



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We're glad you're here!





Call to Worship
Psalm 147:1-6

Psalm 147:1-6 Praise the LORD! For **it is good to sing praises to our God**; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. **He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.** He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and **abundant in power**; his understanding is beyond measure. The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymn 323



Blessed Assurance

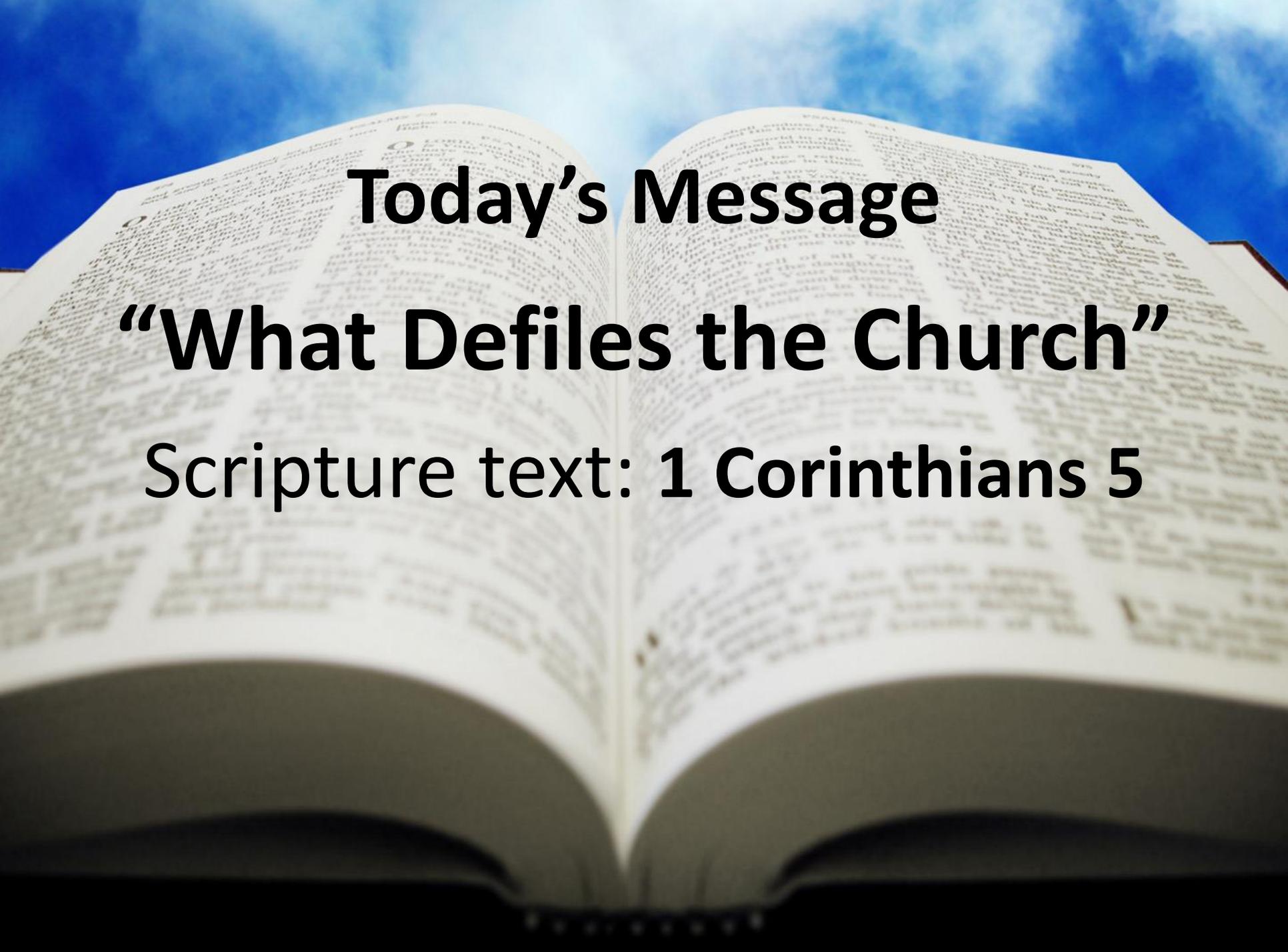
Hymn 67



Famous Quote:

“I am told that Christians do not love each other. I am very sorry if that be true, but I rather doubt it, for I suspect that those who do not love each other are not Christians.”

CHARLES SPURGEON

An open book is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with small, dense text, likely a Bible. The book is set against a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text is overlaid in a large, bold, black font.

Today's Message

“What Defiles the Church”

Scripture text: 1 Corinthians 5

The church at Corinth was not only a divided church, but it was also a disgraced church. There was sin in the assembly and, sad to say, **everybody knew about it**. But the church was slow to do anything about it.

No church is perfect, but human imperfection must never be an excuse for sin. Just as parents must discipline their children in love, so local churches must exercise discipline over the members of the assembly. *Church discipline is not a group of “pious policemen” out to catch a criminal.* **Rather, it is a group of brokenhearted brothers and sisters seeking to restore an erring member of the family.**

Seminary President Admits She Doesn't Believe in Heaven, Miracles or Christ's Resurrection

The president of a seminary founded in 1836 on the “infallible” Word of God says in a new interview she doesn't believe in the bodily resurrection of Christ, the power of prayer, a literal heaven, or miracles.

Serene Jones, president of Union Theological Seminary in New York, made the comments in an [interview](#) with Nicholas Kristof of The New York Times for an article published [Easter](#) weekend. Although the author's intent may have been to inspire readers, it also served to spotlight the leftward drift of many seminaries.

https://www.christianheadlines.com/contributors/michael-foust/seminary-president-admits-she-doesn-t-believe-in-heaven-miracles-or-christ-s-resurrection.html?fbclid=IwAR0k2UV_6wsh6uOG1zwKqyGEOJLaJ_Y1HibWPYCBz6JoLd54kw7HSuKb42c

CHRISLAM RISING: French President Macron Says The Roman Catholic Notre Dame Cathedral In Paris Should Be Rebuilt With Muslim Minarets To ‘Reflect Diversity’ Of France

A minaret is a type of tower built into mosques as a visual focal point and used for the Islamic call to prayer. The architect sees fit to “memorialize Algerians who protested the French government in the 1960s” since “these victims of the state could be memorialized by replacing the spire with – why not? – a graceful minaret.” Given the obscene insensitivity displayed by Macron and others, it would come as no surprise if indeed a minaret were installed at Notre Dame, as a declaration of victory over France’s history and democracy.

<https://www.nowtheendbegins.com/chrislam-emmanuel-macron-says-catholic-notre-dame-cathedral-be-rebuilt-islamic-muslim-minaret-reflect-diversity-france/>

The Satanic Temple Has Evolved Into An Anti-Trump Movement, And Leftists Are Flocking To It

The Satanic Temple is the perfect religion for progressives. You can believe anything you want, as long as you hate what Donald Trump, Christians and conservatives believe. Unlike the Church of Satan, the Satanic Temple doesn't even believe in a supernatural entity called Satan. Instead, they celebrate Satan as "the ultimate rebel", and they relish in using the symbol of Satan to greatly upset Christians.

<http://endoftheamericandream.com/archives/the-satanic-temple-has-evolved-into-an-anti-trump-movement-and-leftists-are-flocking-to-it>

After abandoning Christians, powerful media corporations are now embracing Satanism

There's a concerted effort afoot to rebrand Satanism as a benevolent, all-faiths religious system marked by tolerance, diversity, and inclusion, as opposed to the ritualistic and overt devil worship with which most people are familiar. And leading the charge in spreading [this new-breed type of Satanism](#) to the masses are none other than Hollywood and the mainstream media, both of which having long abandoned any semblance of Christian values, are now openly proclaiming that their true goal and purpose is to usher in this more palatable Antichrist system in preparation for, and anticipation of, the Man of Sin himself.

<https://www.naturalnews.com/2019-04-23-after-abandoning-christians-powerful-media-corporations-are-now-embracing-satanism.html>

LGBT Is Out To Destroy Christianity, Forever

HNewsWire-The militant LGBT activists, who fought for years for homosexuality to be recognized by society and now that it is prominent in our culture and they have not only equal but special legal protection in the United States, they simply aren't satisfied at that.

The LGBT left seem to believe their mission will not be complete ,In their eyes, it is not enough that they have gained the legal rights they demanded for years. No, every person in this country must share their views on homosexuality, and those who don't must be punished.

<https://www.hnewswire.com/lgbt-is-out-to-destroy-christianity/>

Churches Have Become The #1 Target For Hate Attacks – An Average Of 105 Every Single Month

The bombings in Sri Lanka have once again put a spotlight on the rising tide of violence against Christians all over the world. According [to Open Doors USA](#), an average of [105 churches and/or Christian buildings](#) are burned or attacked every month. That is more than three per day, and almost all of those attacks get ignored by the mainstream media in the western world. In addition, an average of [345 Christians](#) are killed for faith-related reasons every single month. Of course these numbers will soon be out of date, because violence against Christians continues to escalate all over the globe, and the horrifying attacks that we just witnessed in Sri Lanka are a perfect example. The following comes from [CBS News](#)...

<http://endoftheamericandream.com/archives/churches-have-become-the-1-target-for-hate-attacks-an-average-of-105-every-single-month>

Consider the Church (1 Cor. 5:1–13)

“What will this sin do to the church?” is certainly an important consideration. Christians are **“called to be saints”** (1 Cor. 1:2), and this **means holy living to the glory of God**. If a Christian loves his church, he will not stand by and permit sin to weaken it and perhaps **ruin its testimony**.

How should we respond? Paul gave three specific instructions for the church to follow.

1 Corinthians 5:1-2 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a **kind that is not tolerated even among pagans**, for a man has his father's wife. And you are arrogant! **Ought you not rather to mourn?** Let him who has done this be removed from among you.

1.) Mourn over the sin (vv. 1–2). This is the word used for mourning over the dead, which is perhaps the **deepest and most painful kind of personal sorrow possible**. Instead of mourning, the people at Corinth were **puffed up**. They were boasting of the fact that their church was so **“open-minded”** that even fornicators could be members in good standing!

The sin in question was a form of incest: a **professed Christian** (and a member of the church) was living with his stepmother in a permanent alliance. Since Paul does not pass judgment on the woman (1 Cor. 5:9–13), we assume that she was not a member of the assembly and probably not even a Christian. This kind of sin was condemned by the Old Testament Law (Lev. 18:6–8; 20:11) as well as by the laws of the Gentile nations. Paul shamed the church by saying, “**Even the unsaved Gentiles don’t practice this kind of sin!**”

Leviticus 18:6-8 "None of you shall approach any one of his close relatives **to uncover nakedness**. I am the LORD. You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father, **which is the nakedness of your mother**; she is your mother, you shall not uncover her nakedness. You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's wife; it is your father's nakedness.

Leviticus 20:11 **If a man lies with his father's wife**, he has uncovered his father's nakedness; both of them shall surely **be put to death**; their blood is upon them.

While it is true that the Christian life is a feast (1 Cor. 5:8), **there are times when it becomes a funeral.** Whenever a Christian brother or sister sins, **it is time for the family to mourn** and to seek to help the fallen believer (Gal. 6:1–2).

The offending brother in Corinth **was “dead” as far as the things of the Lord were concerned.** He was out of fellowship with the Lord and with those in the church who were living separated lives.

Galatians 6:1-5 Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. For each will have to bear his own load.

2.) Judge the sin (vv. 3–5). While Christians are not to judge one another's motives (Matt. 7:1–5) or ministries (1 Cor. 4:5), we are certainly expected **to be honest about each other's conduct**. In my own pastoral ministry, I have never enjoyed having to initiate church discipline; but since it is commanded in the Scriptures, **we must obey God and set personal feelings aside**.

1 Corinthians 4:5 Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and **will disclose the purposes of the heart**. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

Matthew 7:1-5 "Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? You **hypocrite**, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

Paul described here an official church meeting at which the offender was dealt with according to divine instructions. **Public sin must be publicly judged and condemned.** (For our Lord's instructions about discipline, study Matt. 18:15–20.)

The sin was not to be “**swept under the rug**”; for, after all, **it was known far and wide even among the unsaved who were outside the church.**

The church was to gather together and **expel the offender**. Note the strong words that Paul used to instruct them: “taken away from among you” (1 Cor. 5:2), “**deliver such an one unto Satan**” (1 Cor. 5:5), “**purge out**” (1 Cor. 5:7), and “**put away**” (1 Cor. 5:13). **Paul did not suggest that they handle the offender gently**. Of course, we assume that first the spiritual leaders of the church sought to restore the man personally.

This was to be done **by the authority of Jesus Christ**—in **His name**—and not simply on the authority of the local church. **Church membership is a serious thing** and must not be treated carelessly or lightly.

What does it mean to deliver a Christian “unto Satan”? It does not mean to deprive him of salvation, since it is not the church that grants salvation to begin with. When a Christian is in fellowship with the Lord and with the local church, he enjoys a special protection from Satan. But when he is out of fellowship with God and excommunicated from the local church, he is “fair game” for the enemy. God could permit Satan to attack the offender’s body so that the sinning believer would repent and return to the Lord.

3.) Purge the sin (vv. 6–13). The image here is that of the Passover supper (Ex. 12). **Jesus is the Lamb of God who shed His blood to deliver us from sin** (John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:18–25). The Jews in Egypt were delivered from death **by the application of the blood of the lamb.** Following the application of the blood, the Jewish families ate the Passover supper. One of the requirements was that **no yeast (leaven)** be found anywhere in their dwellings. Even the bread at the feast was to be **unleavened.**

John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "**Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**"

1 Peter 1:18-21 knowing that **you were ransomed** from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but **with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.** He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, **so that your faith and hope are in God.**

Leaven is a picture of sin. It is small but powerful; it works secretly; it “**puffs up**” the dough; **it spreads.** The sinning church member in Corinth was like a piece of yeast: **he was defiling the entire loaf of bread (the congregation).** It was like a cancer in the body that **needed to be removed by drastic surgery.**

The church must purge itself of “old leaven”—the things that belong to the “old life” before we trusted Christ. We must also get rid of malice and wickedness (there was a great deal of hard feelings between members of the Corinthian church) and **replace them with sincerity and truth.** As a loaf of bread (1 Cor. 10:17), **the local church must be as pure as possible.**

1 Corinthians 10:17 Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

However, the church must not judge and condemn those who are outside the faith. That judgment is future, and God will take care of it.

In 1 Corinthians 5:9–13, Paul emphasized once again **the importance of separation from the world.** Christians are **not to be isolated, but separated.** We cannot avoid contact with sinners, but **we can avoid contamination by sinners.**

Jesus, I Come

Hymn 401

