

Unequally Yoked

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II Corinthians 6:14-18 ¹⁴Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership can righteousness have with wickedness? Or what fellowship does light have with darkness? ¹⁵What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? ¹⁶What agreement can exist between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be My people." ¹⁷"Therefore come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you." ¹⁸And: "I will be a Father to you, and you will be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." (BSB)

Intro: Matthew 11:28-30 ²⁸"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A. We are not to be in **covenant** relationships with non-believers. V. 14-16
- B. There are other passages that are clear that once you are **married** to an unbeliever, you should try to reach them for Christ.

I Corinthians 7:12-16 ¹²To the rest I say this (I, not the Lord): If a brother has an unbelieving wife and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her. ¹³And if a woman has an unbelieving husband and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. ¹⁴For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his believing wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy. ¹⁵But if the unbeliever leaves, let him go. The believing brother or sister is not bound in such cases. God has called you to live in peace. ¹⁶How do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife? (BSB)

- C. We are to be **distinct** from the unbelievers around us. V. 17
- D. We have a **father-child** relationship with our creator. V. 18

II. How can we apply these truths?

- A. We are to be **wary** of committing ourselves to non-believers. This includes any business relationship in which we do not share the same values and the same fear of God.
- B. If this mistake has already been made we are to be **God-honoring** with our obligations.
- C. We must seek to put our **faith** above any self-interests in our relationships.
- D. Our spiritual family has got to be a **priority** even over blood family.

Mark 10:28-30 ²⁸Peter began to say to Him, "Look, we have left everything and followed You." ²⁹"Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for My sake and for the gospel ³⁰will fail to receive a hundredfold in the present age—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and fields, along with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life. (BSB)

Luke 14:26 If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life [in the sense of indifference to or relative disregard for them in comparison with his attitude toward God] – he cannot be My disciple.