"Let us not glide through the world and then slip quietly out of it without having blown the trumpet loud and long for our Blessed Redeemer. At the very least, let us see to it that when the Devil gets news of our departure from the battlefield, he throws a thanksgiving party in hell."

C. T. Studd

BE YE SEPARATE
AND COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM

Message for Spirit of Christ - May 18, 2014
Prayer Study #395

Therefore
Come out from among them
And be separate, says the Lord.
Do not touch what is unclean,
And I will receive you.
I will be a Father to you,
And you shall be My sons and daughters,
Says the LORD ALMIGHTY.

THEREFORE,
Having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
2nd Corinthians 6:17-18 & 7:1

Paul wrote from Ephesus the Book of 1st and 2nd Corinthians around 56 and 57 AD, just a little over 20 years from the Death, Burial and Resurrection of Christ. His first letter to the Corinthians was his effort to address a variety of problems in the lifestyle of the Corinthian church. These problems included disunity and division among the members, lawsuits, immorality, abuse of the Lord's Supper, and misuse of spiritual gifts. Paul was especially troubled by a case of incest, which had not been dealt with by the church. This carnal church, much like much of the American Church today, was struggling in the pagan society that surrounded it.

Paul's second letter to the Corinthians was his own defense against false teachers who had infiltrated the church and spread lies about Paul. Initially they swayed the church into believing that Paul was insincere, arrogant, ugly in appearance, poor in speech, dishonest, and unqualified as an apostle of Jesus Christ. Paul was so upset about this attack on his character that he sent Titus to Corinth to address these problems. Paul was so anxious to get a report back from Titus that he left Ephesus to met Titus in Macedonia, part way to Corinth. He was

relieved to learn that the church had had a change of heart and had recognized that these all were lies about him. When he heard the good report, he wrote the Corinthians this second letter, and it was a very personal and almost autobiographical letter in which he defends his apostolic authority and urges the Corinthians to separate from pagan unbelievers and from idols.

Today much of the Western World Church, including America, like the Corinthian Church, is full of carnality and worldliness. We have not *come out from among them* but have allowed the culture to influence the Church instead of the Church changing the culture.

What in the world is going on?:

Revelation 12:12: *…Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! For the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time*

2nd Timothy 3: *You should also know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control; they will be cruel and have no interest in what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act as if they are religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. You must stay away from people like that.*

Psalm 2: *Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves and the rulers take counsel together against the LORD and against His Anointed saying, "Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us."*

Isaiah 5:20a: *Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil…*

In the last twelve months, Satanism has become mainstream in America with the atheists applying to put a statue of Satan on the capitol grounds of Oklahoma State Capitol because the grounds also have a copy of the ten commandments. Satanism was featured prominently in the performance of Katy Perry at the 2014 Oscar Ceremony. Satanists planned a Black Mass on the campus of Harvard University. Many celebrities have admitted to selling their souls to the devil.

We have seen perversion running rampart in America, and America is going to pay a terrible price for its immorality. A Cosmopolitan survey found that more than 30% of men watch porn daily. 71% of men ages 18-34 watch porn at least once a month. The average age of first exposure to porn in the UK was four years old. 65% of American men say porn is morally acceptable. 50% of female Christians in America and 39% of Christian males said that they went to church at least once a month. 90% of these Christians went on to say that they would be comfortable with premarital sex; 61% of these said without any strings attached. During the Super Bowl, porn use in Denver dropped 51%, while porn in Seattle fell 61%. It skyrocketed in Denver after the outcome of the game had been determined but remained lower than usual in Seattle. 56% of divorce cases had one person who was hooked on porn. Porn is a 13-billion-dollar industry, and the United States produces 89% of the world's pornography. 66% of all porn made in America comes from California. One in three visitors to porn sites are women. The places in America where porn is viewed the most are Washington D.C., Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey. 21% of Christian teenage girls in America admit to texting a naked photo of themselves. The top porn capital of the U.S. is Orlando, followed by Las Vegas; Wilmington, N.C.; Raleigh, N.C., and Charlotte, N.C. 50% of pastors regularly view porn.

Some of you here today may not care about these statistics, but they make me want to throw-up. We have got to come to the realization that there is a war going on around us against the absolute truth of the Holy Bible. The war is ugly, vicious, and horrible, and there are many casualties. Yet the Church in America is largely asleep, and the members are content to spend a couple of hours a week in churches where they hear a watered-down Gospel and a sermon with no convicting power.

Frankly, it seems like we are losing this spiritual war, as we watch a cultural revolution against everything righteous and holy taking place right here in our country. The older you are today in this place, the more disturbed you probably are by this mega shift in the morals of our society, because you remember an America where there was great reverence for the things of God. Our young people have been conditioned by television, movies, and the internet, to accept as normal all kinds of perversion.

The State of the Church in America: The Bad News

"…we are harmless and therefore unharmed. We are spiritual pacifists, non-militants, conscientious objectors in this battle to the death with principalities and powers in high places…We are 'sideliners' coaching and criticizing the real

wrestlers while content to sit by and leave the enemies of God unchallenged. The world cannot hate us-we are too much like its own." - Jim Elliot

"It is widely held that the battle of the century will be between Marxism, Islam, and Third World Christianity. Western Christianity is considered too weak and ineffective to contribute anything significant to this universal struggle." - David Watson

"I look at the whole religious scene today, and all I see are inventions and ministries of man and flesh. It's mostly powerless. It has no impact on the world. And I see more of the world coming into the Church and impacting the Church rather than the Church impacting the world. I see the music taking over the house of God. I see entertainment taking over the house of God, obsession with entertainment in God's house, a hatred of conviction and a hatred of reproof. Nobody wants to hear it anymore. Whatever happened to anguish in the house of God? Whatever happened to anguish in the ministry? It's a word you don't hear in this pampered age." - David Wilkerson

"Listen to me, like you've never listened to me ever in your life. We have got to lay out lives down for the purposes of God. This is not a Sunday School picnic, the Church of Jesus Christ. This is not an invitation to have continuous good times. This is a war for the souls of men. Come out from among them. Run for your life because this is about your life. It's not just about an opposing theology or a conflicting viewpoint on Jesus. This is about your life. My mind is forever branded with the story that I heard of police officers from the city of New York. As people were fleeing from a crumbling building, there were police officers and firemen and others that were running towards the buildings, saying, "Run for your lives," at their own peril, and in some cases, I believe they knew they were going to die. But there was a sense of duty. I was crying out to God. I said, "God, oh Jesus, don't let my sense of duty be less for your kingdom than these beloved firemen and policemen warring for those who were perishing in the falling towers. We are living in a generation when faith is falling in the streets. I want to be among those who are not running away from the conflict, but running into the conflict as they say, "Run for your life!"
"Run from a gospel that focuses only on success and prosperity. Run! Run from those who use the name of Christ only for personal gain. Run from those who are picking your pockets in the Name of Jesus. Run! Run from gospels that only focus on self-improvement. Run! Run from churches where men and not Christ are glorified. Run! Run, Body of Christ! Run! Get out! Don't touch the unclean thing! Run from churches in America and Canada where there is no Bible, there's

no cross in the theology, there's no soul-searching word, there's no repentance from sin. There's no mention of the blood of Jesus. Run! It's unclean! Run! Run from churches where you are comfortable in your sins. If you come in the house of God, and you've got sin in your life, and you're not convicted of it, you are at a table of devils. Run from pulpits that have been filled with political men who are using the pulpit of God for a personal, political agenda. Run! Run from those who preach division between races and cultures. Run! Run! Get out! Turn it off! Get away from it! They know nothing of God. Run from ungodly spasmodic movements and aimless, empty prophesying. Beloved church, run for your life! Run from preachers who tell stories and jokes. Run like you've never run before. Run! Run! Run!" - Carter Conlon the day after 9/11

THE GOOD NEWS

1. **The fields are ripe for harvest:** John 4:35 - ***Do not say, "There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!***
2. **The harvest at the end of the age is great:** Luke 10:2 - *Then He said to them,* ***"The harvest is great, but the laborers are few; therefore, pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."*** (Matthew 13:39 tells us this great harvest is at the end of the age.)
3. **The kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ:** Revelation 11:15 - *Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"*
4. **We can overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony:** Revelation 12:10-11- *Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation and strength and the kingdom of our God and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death."*

Today this message is *Be ye separate and come out from among them.* Many will not receive this message, but I believe there is a tremendous calling on those who are willing to separate themselves from worldly things. You who truly are willing to die to the flesh and make Jesus not just a part of life but your life, will be a part of that company spoken of in the Book of Daniel in Chapter 11, verse 28b: *…but the people that do know their God shall be strong and do exploits.* The

word *exploits* apparently was not in the Hebrew language. The word exploits means *notable or heroic acts.* Would you want to do any less for Jesus who died for you?

Those who know their God shall be strong and do exploits. They will be empowered to stand no matter what happens in the world, and I tell you today that some greatly challenging days are ahead for us, and He is now seeking those who will root down in Him and will, as Psalm 2 tells us, *kiss the Son* while *the heathen rage* around us.

I believe that there are going to be several separations in the next several months in the Body of Christ. One of the first will be a separation of those who walk in fear from those who walk in faith. Some others that we are going to see a separation of the wheat from the tares or the real from the false, a separation of the sheep from the goats or the true followers from the rebellious ones, and a separation of those who walk in the flesh from those who walk in the spirit. I had thought this message was going to be about those different separations, but I believe the Lord had other things in mind.

I do want to close with brief comments about the separation for those who walk in the spirit from those who walk in the flesh. Our flesh is full of lust and carnality, pride and selfish ambition, attention getting and jockeying for position. The Lord loves us so much and wants to kill our flesh because the the carnal flesh is at enmity against God. Romans 8: 5-15-*For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors-not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage to fear, but you received the Spirit of Adoption by whom we cry out, Abba, Father."*