

A Paternity Test for God's People

2 Corinthians 6:14—7:1

May 14, 2023

"It is of utmost importance that we understand and believe that the greatest danger to the church is not from without but from within."
(2 Corinthians, R. Kent Hughes, p139)

1. God's people have his **DNA** (14-16a)

Do not be yoked together with unbelievers (2Cor. 6:14)

- Righteousness vs. wickedness
God's righteousness (Rom. 3:21-22; 2 Cor. 5:21)
- Light vs. darkness
God is light (John 8:12; 1 John 1:5-7)
- Christ vs. Belial ie. **worthless**
Christ is worthy (Rev. 4:11 and 5:9)
- Believer vs. dis-believer
Believe God = **trust** God (Rom. 4:5, 20-21)
- Temple of God vs. idols ie. **substitute** gods
God's indwelling Spirit (1 Cor. 3:16)

There is no space for compromise, partnership, or sharing with false teachers, false worship and false living in the church!

2. God pursues an exclusive relationship w/ His people (16b-18)

- a. His **presence** with His redeemed ones
See also Lev. 26:11-12 and Ezek. 37:27 and Rev. 21:3
- b. His particular concern for their set apart **lifestyle**
- c. The Lord Almighty's heart for His sons and daughters

3. God's people respond to His promises (7:1)

- a. Redemption has both a "from" and also a "to" aspect
Redeemed from **sin** and redeemed to holiness
- b. "Aggressively and progressively" (RWP) **wholy** holy

On Your Own (better with others)

1. Agree/disagree

"It is of utmost importance that we understand and believe that the greatest danger to the church is not from without but from within."

2. Is it possible to recognize the five markers for God's DNA in people who are inside the church? (circle one). YES NO

If YES, how can you tell? If NO, why does Paul make a list?

3. One application of 2 Corinthians 6:14 is a warning against entering into a marriage covenant between a believer and unbeliever. Suggest some other possible applications.

4. READ 1 Peter 2:9-12 Answer the following from the passage.

- In what four ways are God's people described?
- What is one reason that God saves people?
- What is the before and after picture of God's people?
- What relationship do God's people have to the world?
- Is holy living an offensive or defensive spiritual strategy?
- What do onlookers conclude looking at God's people?

5. Which is the greater poison in the church today: legalism and self-righteousness OR accommodating falsehood? Whichever one you picked, suggest a biblical antidote.