



BIBLICAL SEPARATION

THE DANGERS OF COMPROMISE

As you go through each lesson, look up the Bible verses and answer the questions in the blanks provided. When you are finished with this lesson you and your mentor will meet to discuss your answers and any questions you may have. This is not a pass/fail test, so answer honestly as you understand things. We want you to understand, not just to give the “right” answer.



At some point in your Christian life, you will have to decide what is important to you.

It is impossible to please God and the world at the same time. You must choose

This lesson is designed to help you come to right conclusions in this important matter.

When the Bible speaks of **separation**, God is talking about **separation from sin**, and the world of sin in which we live. When a person is saved, he is saved **from** hell (i.e., from all the sin and evil connected with it), **to** heaven (i.e., to eternal life and all the blessing which go with it).

Another word which is used in the Bible similar to "separation" is "sanctification" or "sanctify." "Sanctify" or "sanctification" is used some 128 times in the Scriptures. The words "separate" and "separated" are used some 90 times by Jesus. So, you see, this is a very important subject for us to consider.

In our first lesson, we talked of being saved for certain. This, in the Bible is called "justification" or being "justified."

Dr. William Evans, the first graduate of Moody Bible Institutes in Chicago, gives us this marvelous comparison of justification and sanctification: *"If regeneration has to do with our nature, justification with our standing, and adoption with our position, then sanctification has to do with our character and conduct. In justification we are declared righteous in order that, in sanctification, we may become righteous. Justification is what God does for us, while sanctification is what God does in us. Justification puts us into a right relationship with God, while sanctification exhibits the fruit of that relationship - a life separated from a sinful world and dedicated to God."*

1. Read II Corinthians 5:17. Is there any difference between the way a saved person lives and the way a lost person lives?

2. Re-read II Corinthians 5:17. What does it mean, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature"?

3. Has there been any change in your life since you were saved?

YES _____ NO _____ If yes, in what ways? _____

4. Read James 4:4. What does God say about His children making friends (entering into sin) with the world?

Note: *The term "world" means the lifestyle, value system and philosophy, contrary to God's ways, that prevails among the unsaved.*

5. Read Isaiah 55:8-9. How do God's ways and man's ways compare?

6. Read Psalm 18:30. Whose ways are best, God's or man's? (check one)

God's Ways _____ Man's Ways _____

7. Read I John 2:15-16. What should be our relationship with the world? (Use the definition for "world" given above Question 5)

8. Read Romans 12:2. What further description is given about our relationship with "the world"?

9. Read Psalm 1:1. God has promised a special blessing to those who do what?

10. Read Psalm 1:2. Where should the delight of the Christian be placed?

11. Read Isaiah 59:2. What are the consequences of adopting the ways of the world in your life as a Christian?

12. Read **I Corinthians 6:19a**. Who *personally* makes our bodies *His dwelling place*?

13. Read **I Corinthians 6:19b**. What should be our attitude toward our physical bodies?

14. List several sins against the physical body. (*Things that tear it down or make it morally impure.*)

15. Read **Romans 12:1**. What should we do with our bodies?

16. Read **Proverbs 23:29-35**. What should be our attitude toward drinking alcoholic beverages?

17. Read **Ephesians 4:29**. Should we ever curse?

YES _____ NO _____

18. Re-read **Ephesians 4:29**. What about using slang words?

YES _____ NO _____

19. Look up the following commonly used words in a good dictionary: (*dang, darn, gosh, and heck*) **Are these actually curse words?**

YES _____ NO _____

20. Read **I Corinthians 11:14**. Should men wear long hair?

YES _____ NO _____

21. Read **I Corinthians 11:15**. Should women have short hair like men?

YES _____ NO _____

22. Read **I Timothy 2:9**. Is it proper for girls and women to wear immodest, suggestive clothing (*tight-fitting or revealing*)?

YES _____ NO _____

23. How about bare midriffs, short skirts, short shorts, or low-cut tops?

YES _____ NO _____

24. Read **Romans 12:2**. Should we wear that which identifies with or conforms to the current worldly trends such as earrings on men, multiple body-piercings, tattoos, unusual hairstyles, etc.?

YES _____ NO _____

25. By what **Biblical principles** can a Christian determine what is **right and wrong in God's sight** regarding "questionable" things?

- Read **Romans 14:20**. _____

Discipleship Lesson #15: BIBLICAL SEPARATION: The Dangers of Compromise

- Read **Romans 14:21**. _____

- Read **Romans 14:23**. _____

26. How would you evaluate such things as smoking, rock music, drugs, dancing, movies, videos which are vulgar or suggestive, gambling, the lottery, pornography, etc. in the light of the above Biblical principles?

27. Read **I Corinthians 5:9-13**. What should be our position toward professing Christians who practice fornication (sexual sin), covetousness, idolatry, railing (cursing or bad language), drunkenness, or extortion (thievery) after being admonished according to **Matthew 18:15-17**?

28. Name two circumstances under which we should separate from other Christians:

- Read **II Thessalonians 3:6**. _____

- Read **II Thessalonians 3:14**. _____

29. Read **II Thessalonians 3:15**. What should be our attitude toward them?

30. Read **Galatians 1:6-9**. Should a Christian have *a tolerant attitude* toward a preacher, evangelist, Bible teacher, or cult that *does not preach the truth*?

YES _____ NO _____

31. Read **Jude 1:3**. What is our responsibility to the whole teaching of the Bible (*called "the faith"*)?

32. Read **II John 1:7-11**. What are we commanded to do about deceivers who do not accept the Bible's teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ, such as Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, Christian Scientists, Unitarians, Roman Catholics, Church of Christ members, Seventh Day Adventists, Buddhists, or Muslims?

33. Read **II Corinthians 6:17-18**. Is *separation* definitely commanded in God's Word?

YES _____ NO _____

34. What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know?

35. How can you make this a part of your everyday life?



MEMORIZE THESE VERSES for Lesson 15

(Choose the translation that works best for you)

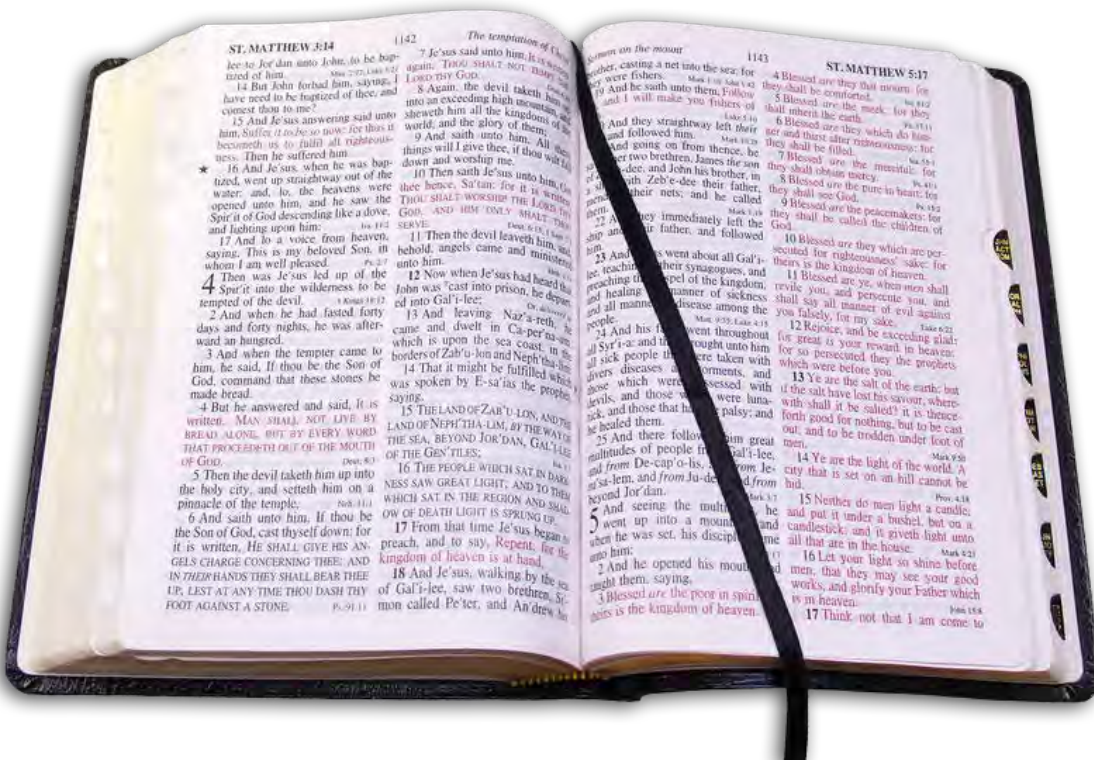
Title to verses: **BIBLICAL SEPARATION**

1 John 2:15 (KJV) Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:15 (NASB) 1 John 2:15 (NASB) Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

II Corinthians 6:17-18 (KJV) Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

II Corinthians 6:17-18 (NASB) Therefore, "COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will welcome you. 18 "And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," says the Lord Almighty.



ACCOUNTABILITY PAGE

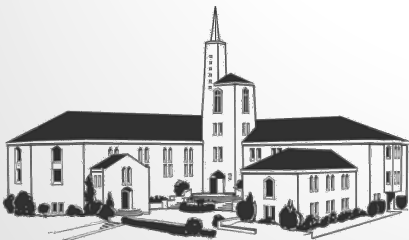
My Name: _____

My Mentor's Name: _____

Date I completed Lesson Two: _____

My Mentor's Signature: _____

A Pastor's Signature: _____



HAMILTON SQUARE
BAPTIST CHURCH

Remember:

It's important to be at church whenever you are able, so you can continue to grow in the Lord!

SUNDAYS

9:45 am – Bible Study or Sunday School

10:50 am – Morning Worship Service

Lunch & Mingle

1:30 pm – Afternoon Church Service

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

DIGGING DEEPER



OPTIONAL: Extra information

Some of the most helpful materials regarding the matter of Biblical separation is found in the series of lessons taught by our pastor emeritus, Dr. David Innes. **The series is called "What is a Fundamentalist?"**

There are two major doctrines that divide Christian evangelicalism: **Bible Commands for Love and Unity** vs. **Bible Commands for Separation from Sin**.

*Psalm 133:1 clearly states *Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!**

*John 13:34-35 records Christ's command for His followers. *A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.**

God wants Christians to get along! Unity was part prayer of Jesus for His followers.

*John 17:20-21 *Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.**

Christians *should* get along; but we *cannot* get along with those who disobey the Scriptures. **The commands for love and unity** are important; but so are **the Biblical commands to separate from sin** - even when those sins are committed by disobedient Christian brothers and sisters who ignore God's commands in Scripture.

Christians who believe in and emphasize **Biblical separation** are called **Fundamentalists**.

Biblical separation is not isolation from the world. It is not antiquation – holding on to the past. It is not *Amishism* or *Ludditism* (*referring to those who resist progress in technology*). **Biblical separation** is based on **biblical commands and principles**, not culture. Biblical commands and principles are timeless – they never change but their applications change as culture changes.

Fundamentalism is not rooted or grounded in culture nor is it defined by any external culture. It is rooted and grounded in the timeless truths of the Word of God. **Fundamentalism** is not cultural in nature but does have a direct, and hopefully profound effect on the life of the believer in his cultural environment. **Fundamentalism** is not anti-cultural, but because of its biblical world view, **fundamentalism** is counter-cultural.

In matters where culture conforms to and is compatible with the commands and principles of the Word of God, it should be acceptable to the believer. But, in matters where culture is contrary or adverse to the commands and principles of the Word of God, it must be rejected.

In matters where the culture is neutral to the commands and principles of the Word of God discernment should be exercised.

So, how would we define "Fundamentalism"?

HERE ARE SOME BASIC AXIOMS¹ THAT ARE FOUNDATIONAL TO FUNDAMENTALISM:

- **The Bible is the Word of God** - our only rule of faith and practice - and is absolute in its authority.
- **God is more significant and important than man.**

¹ **axi•om** *noun* [L. *axioma*, fr. Gk *axiōma*, lit., something worthy, fr. *axioun* to think worthy, fr. *axios* worthy, worthy; akin to Gk *agein* to weigh, drive]

1 : a maxim (a general truty fundamental principle, or rule of conduct) widely accepted on its intrinsic merit

2 : a statement accepted as true as the basis for argument or inference : POSTULATE

3 : an established rule or principle or a self-evident truth

Discipleship Lesson #15: BIBLICAL SEPARATION: The Dangers of Compromise

- God's honor is more important than man's honor.
- God's ways are better than man's ways.
- God's love is more perfect than man's love.
- Man is never benefited when God is dishonored.
- God's judgments are necessary for man's welfare.
- **It is never right to do wrong.** There is never a right reason for doing a wrong thing.
- **Partial obedience or selective obedience is disobedience.**
- The Holy Spirit of God never leads anyone to do anything that is contrary to His Word.
- **Anything that is not Scriptural is not spiritual - of the Holy Spirit.**
- It is always wrong to give credibility (believability) to the works of **apostasy**².
- God has not called us to succeed. He has called us to work hard and to be faithful. The results of our work are God's business, not ours!
- **Pragmatism**³ (outcome-based, result-oriented philosophy) is never the measure of a man's work. God always measures our work by the Standard of His Word.
- **Fighting and confrontation are absolutely necessary** under certain conditions. That for which you will not fight, you will ultimately lose.
- **God has enemies.** The Bible instructs believers to relate to God's enemies differently than to their own personal enemies. Entirely different principles apply.
- Everyone, without exception, who claims to represent the Living God and His Son, Jesus Christ is morally and spiritually obligated to be in

² **apostasy** *noun* [L. *apostasie*, fr. LL *apostasia*, fr. Gk, lit., revolt, fr. *apo* from + *histasthai* to stand]

1 : renunciation of (departure from) a religious faith

2 : abandonment of a previous loyalty : DEFECTION

³ **pragmatism** *noun* [L. *pragmaticus* skilled in law or business, fr. Gk *pragmatikos*, fr. *pragma* deed, *prassein* to do]

An American movement in philosophy founded by C.S. Peirce and William James and marked by the doctrines that the meaning of conceptions is to be sought in their practical bearings, that the function of thought is to guide action, and that truth is to be tested by **the practical consequences** of belief

full agreement with God in everything - to be on God's side in every issue of life and ministry.

Fundamentalism is a personal commitment to God and His Word. A Fundamentalist is a person who believes everything that is clearly taught in the Scriptures and is committed to obeying the clear commands of Scripture. **Fundamentalists** believe and obey the commands to love one another, but they also emphasize the Bible commands to separate from those who choose to compromise on those basic principles of belief and obedience to the Scriptures.

There is another "brand" of Christian out there. They are New Evangelicals.

They are believers, but their manner of life is weaker in the matter of holiness before God.

New Evangelicalism claims a belief in the Scriptures and a desire to obey the Scriptures but tends to adjust things so that they are palatable for the world of scholars and theologians rather than simple, blind faith and obedience to the Scriptures. **New Evangelicals** also claim to believe and obey the commands of Scripture, but they minimize the Bible commands to separate from those who choose to compromise on those basic principles of belief and obedience to God and His Word. In **New Evangelicalism**, there is an emphasis on the pragmatic (*what works*) rather than the emphatic (*absolute truth and integrity*).

EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW EVANGELICAL THINKING - by Dr. J. B. Williams

- They **emphasize love and unity** to the exclusion of the truth of separation.
- They **will not separate** from religious groups on the ground of doctrinal error.
- They **emphasize scholarship** and intellectualism (modern scientism, evolution)
- They **praise liberal theologians** for their scholarship (level of academic training, etc.).

- They **emphasize participation in politics** and in social and moral issues (impacting culture and public life).
- They **criticize the fundamentalist** even more than the liberals do.
- They remain strangely **silent about apostasy** and its evils.
- They are **success oriented** (pragmatists) – the end justifies the means.

Christians are called to be different than the world rather than conforming to the world's way of thinking. Ron Hamilton wrote a children's song that explains this well. Here are the lyrics for your consideration

IF YOU'RE GONNA MAKE A DIFFERENCE⁴

1. Our God commands us to be different.
Not just a copy of the world.
Everything's reversed. Putting others first.
Showing Jesus' love. Pleasing Christ above.
2. Jesus has given me a new life.
Now I'm a servant of the King.
Serving day and night. Walking in the Light.
Singing a new song. Choosing right from wrong.

Chorus:

If you're gonna make a diff'rence
You gotta be a little diff'rent.
I'm not talkin' 'bout being strange as two left thumbs;
But marchin' to the beat of a diff'rent drum.
Don't let this world press you into its mold.
Go ahead. Speak up. Stand and be bold.
Follow the Lord. Trust in His Word.
Buck the crowd. Be a little diff'rent.

⁴ Ron Hamilton. Patch the Pirate - *Praise 3 - 35 Sing-along Favorites*. (c) 1998 Majesty Music, Inc.



HAMILTON SQUARE
BAPTIST CHURCH

THE DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING COURSE

Lesson Schedule

Lesson #1	What Happens When One is “Born Again?”	Salvation
Lesson #2	What to Do When You Fall	Confession of Sin
Lesson #3	What About Baptism?	Baptism
Lesson #4	How to Pray & Why Should I?	Prayer
Lesson #5	Bible Study: Making it Personal	Bible Study
Lesson #6	Obedience Brings Blessing	Obedience
Lesson #7	Church Membership Matters	Membership
Lesson #8	Tithes & Offerings: Bible Principles	Giving
Lesson #9	Overcoming Sexual Sin & Temptation	Victory
Lesson #10	Our Lord’s Commission	Witnessing
Lesson #11	Putting Anger & Bitterness to Rest	Bitterness
Lesson #12	Alcohol & Other Addictive Substances	Addictions
Lesson #13	Music and the Christian	Music
Lesson #14	Social Media, TV, Movies, The Internet & The Future	Media
Lesson # 15	Biblical Separation: The Dangers of Compromise	Separation
Lesson #16	Bloom Where You’re Planted! Staying in the City	City Ministry
Lesson #17	Happiness Forever: The Fruit of Faithfulness	Heaven

If you have questions, ask your mentor to help you.
If he or she can’t help you,
they will help you set up an appointment with a pastor at our church.
They are here to help you!