

A LIFE OF SEPARATION

By Keith Greer

God's children have been called to live a life of "**separation**." Let us examine some things Christians must "**separate**" from:

From the world. "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you." {John 15:18,10} We live in the world but the Christian cannot "live" like the world. Paul told us not to be "conformed" to the world, Romans 12:1,2. Satan and the world have one agenda and God's is quite different. Christians must "separate" from the ways and thinking of the world. Christians need to get use to the truth—the world will not embrace our values, goals, or our way of life. Worldly people have their own agenda and God's people seek to be His servants and mold their lives after His teachings.

From the darkness. "Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?" {2 Corinthians 6:14} Darkness is represented here as sin. One that is in the world is in "spiritual darkness" and spiritually blind. Therefore, God's children must leave the paths of sin and come to the light of truth and conform their lives to the teachings of truth.

From the teachers of error. "Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds." {2 John 9-11} False teachers and their messages are workers of Satan and his agenda. Christians must always be ready to defend and uphold the truth, Philippians 1:17; 1 Peter 3:15. One cannot be in fellowship with God and error at the same time. God's people love truth and hate error, Psalm 119:104.

Sadly, so many are living conflicted lives for Christ because this "**separation**" has not occurred in their lives. Are you living a life of "separation"? ***