**“Unequally Yoked”**

Good morning saints and welcome to the fellowship of the Lord. This morning I will be ministering on the importance of being not “Unequally Yoked” from the scriptures. Many Christians have turned their backs on the Lord and went back into the world because they were “Unequally Yoked”. Let’s Get Into The Word!

**Scripture Reading: James 4:4 (NKJV) says this,** “4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”

**Unequal** - 1. Not equal in quantity, size, or value. Differing, dissimilar, unlike, unidentical, unmatched, not matching, uneven, unbalanced, lopsided, opposite.

**Yoke** – 1. A wooden crosspiece that is fastened over the necks of two animals and attached to the plow or cart that they are to pull.

**2 Corinthians 6:11-18 (NKJV) says this,** “11 O Corinthians! We have spoken openly to you, our heart is wide open. 12 You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted by your own affections. 13 Now in return for the same (I speak as to children), you also be open.” **14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? 16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 1 Corinthians 3:16-17. “I will dwell in them And walk among them, Leviticus 26:12**. “**I will be their God, And they shall be My people.” Ezekiel 37:27**

**17 Therefore “Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord.”** **Do not touch** **what is unclean, And I will receive you.” Isaiah 52:11**

**18 “I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, 2 Samuel 7:14 Says the Lord Almighty.”**

The Apostle Paul used the scriptures of the old covenant to convince the Corinthians of the new covenant. That nothing has changed in God’s mind about the importance of not being “Unequally Yoked”. Therefore, we do of the new covenant have to become obedient to the commandment of God. Amen!

**2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NKJV) says this,** “3 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

I don’t know about you, but I don’t want to hang out with folk who are like this. Because they are contrary to who I am in Christ. Therefore, I and you have no choice but to turn away from folk like this. Even if they are your families members. Amen!

**Deuteronomy 7:1-4 (NKJV) says this,** “7 “When the Lord your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you, 2 and when the Lord your God delivers them over to you, you shall conquer them and utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them nor show mercy to them. 3 Nor shall you make marriages with them. You shall not give your daughter to their son, nor take their daughter for your son. **4 For they will turn your sons away from following Me, to serve other gods; so the anger of the Lord will be aroused against you and destroy you suddenly.**

The bottom line is this. Being “Unequally Yoked” has consequences. Which is, you and I will constantly be bombarded with leaving God in some kind of way. Therefore, the only way to ensure this doesn’t happen is not to have nothing to do with folk who are against our God in the first place. Amen!

**1 Corinthians 15:33 (NKJV) says this,** “33 Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits.”

Being “Unequally Yoked” will change your character in Christ, which is, good. To something evil, which is, against God. Therefore, don’t deceive yourselves into thinking you will be the first to hang around ungodly people and will not be affected because you will. Amen!

**Psalm 1:1-3 (NKJV) says this,** “1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law, he meditates day and night. 3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

There is always a blessing in following the commandments of the Lord. Having “Unequally Yoked” relationships will stop your blessings of prosperity in there seasons. Therefore, it is not worth it to have these relationships. Even if they are family are not makes no difference to the Lord. So, make the choice today to break any and all “Unequally Yoked” relationships today and show the Lord your commitment and loyalty to him. Amen!

I Love You, Be Blessed!

Pastor Jimmy