

Betrothed to One Alone

by Erlo Stegen

The sermon emphasizes the necessity of prioritizing God in our lives and the dangers of compromising our faith through sin and worldly influences.

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 11:2

Topics: "Commitment to Christ", "The Danger of Dual Allegiance"

Description

Erlo Stegen emphasizes the importance of being fully committed to Christ, likening this commitment to a marriage where one cannot serve both God and the world. He warns against the dangers of having dual allegiances, particularly in the context of family relationships, where God must take precedence over spouses and children. Stegen highlights that living in sin or compromising with worldly values makes one an enemy of God, and he stresses the necessity of purity and discernment in both personal conduct and parenting. He calls for a return to godly standards, urging believers to reject worldly influences and to uphold the sanctity of their commitment to Christ. Ultimately, he warns that those who indulge in sin cannot inherit the kingdom of God, regardless of their church involvement.

Transcript

"For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." (2 Corinthians 11:2-3).

If you meet with the Lord Jesus and commit yourself to Him it's like getting married to Him.

Paul says I have betrothed you to One Man; but today many Christians have two in their lives, both Jesus and satan. Woe to you if you claim to belong to Christ but at the same time also have a relationship with the devil.

As a married person, your wife should not be first in your life. God must be first and your wife second otherwise you run the risk of siding with her even when she's wrong. The same apply to parents and their children. God should be first and your children second otherwise you will go after your children when they go astray after the world and its lusts.

Some parents have no discernment and their children wrap them around their finger and they don't even realise it.

If you get angry and upset and live in sin and adultery with the world and love the world and the things of this world, you are an adulterer and an enemy of God. If you say you belong to Christ but there is anger, lies and deceit in your life you are not serving Christ but there's a second master in your life, even satan and you serve him.

Some love sin and the world and its fashions, but we must get our direction from God - even how we should dress and behave ourselves as temples of God.

Jesus said we are the salt of the world, but if we have lost our saltiness we're worthless and to be cast out.

"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

So if you're an idolator or serving the ancestors you cannot inherit the kingdom of God. If you live immorally as a young person or in adultery as a married person or a widow, you cannot inherit the kingdom of God.

People who do such things cannot and will not enter the kingdom of Heaven, unless the Bible is a book of lies. You may be a church member and have partaken of the Lord's supper, sing in the choir, be a deacon or even a preacher, but you will not enter the kingdom of heaven if these things are in your life.

Some parents get money from their children obtained through prostitution or some other sinful, dishonest means, and so their parents close an eye to that because of the money.

Many leave us because they love the world and the lusts thereof. They enter into sin, but their parents excuse them because they join another church. They will only be a curse to such a church. A little leaven will corrupt the whole lump if they are allowed to stay.

Young people love to kiss and cuddle each other without being undressed and so excuse themselves that they haven't sinned, but they arouse their lusts and according to the Word of God have already sinned and will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven unless they repent of that.

If you want to enter marriage, enter it in purity and not by the back door where you behave like married people before the time and then want to marry.

The problem lies many a time with the mothers. The father puts his foot down but then she feels sorry for the child and excuses the sin. You will go to hell with your child if you allow it.

Put God first in your life and do not side with sin or with those who side with sin.

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