Immiscible

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday May 22, 2022

Text: I Corinthians 10:21

# **Intro**

1. Immiscible: Incapable of mixing.
   1. Like oil & water!
2. It speaks of oneness – things that don’t mix with each other!
3. **I Corinthians 10:21:** You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.
   1. This is a spiritual immiscible equation: The Lord vs. Demons (Can’t partake of both!) – They don’t mix. *A saint cannot have one foot in the Lord and the other in the world!*
4. There are many things in our life that are immiscible as Christians!
5. **Oneness/Don’t Mix**
6. I Corinthians 6:15-17: Lord vs. Immorality
   1. **Negative:** The church at Thyatira, specifically, those who followed the so-called prophetess, Jezebel. These saints followed after sexual immorality rather than God – Revelation 2:20-23
   2. **Positive:** Joseph chose God over immorality. Potiphar’s wife gave him reason and opportunity, and Joseph literally fled away from her – Genesis 39:6-16
7. Matthew 6:24; Luke 16:13: God vs. Wealth
   1. **Negative:** The church at Laodicea thought they had it made because they were wealthy, but in fact they were lukewarm and made Jesus sick. He said He would vomit them out! Revelation 3:15-19
   2. **Positive:** The church at Smyrna was in poverty, but spiritually rich – Revelation 2:9-10; also, the apostles told Jesus they left everything to follow Him – Mark 10:28
   3. The Smyrna saints stood in contrast to the Laodicean saints who chose wealth over God
   4. The apostles stood in contrast to the Rich Young Ruler (Mark 10:17-27) who chose money over God
8. John 3:19-21; II Corinthians 6:14; Ephesians 5:7-11; I John 1:5-7: Light vs. Dark
   1. **Negative:** The church at Sardis had a reputation of being alive but Jesus knew the truth and reveals it to them: They were dead! He calls upon them to wake up in Revelation 3:1-3.
   2. Dead and asleep refers to being in sin (Ephesians 2:1-3) and in sin is walking in the dark (John 3:19-20)
   3. **Positive:** The church at Sardis also had saints who walked in the light; their garments weren’t soiled but were white – Revelation 3:4-5
   4. Walking in the Light is to be made alive in Christ (Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:21)
9. II Corinthians 6:14-16: Righteousness vs. Lawlessness; Christ vs. Satan (Belial); Believer vs. Unbeliever; Temple of God vs. Idols
   1. **Negative:** The churches at Pergamum (Revelation 2:14-16) and Thyatira (Revelation 2:20-23) both had saints that chose Lawlessness, Satan, to behave as Unbelievers, and idolatry over Righteousness, Christ, to walk as Believers, and to keep their bodies as the Temple of God!
   2. **Positive:** The church at Thessalonica. The saints there had a reputation that influenced Macedonia and Achaia and everywhere they went because they proclaimed the gospel. It was well known that they had chosen to serve the True and Living God over idols – I Thessalonians 1:6-10
10. Romans 6:4-14: New Self vs. Old Self
    1. **Negative:** Simon, the former sorcerer of Samaria (Acts 8:9-13) said and did all the right things to become a Christian. But when He saw true power his old self came out and tried to buy the power of the Holy Spirit from the apostles – Acts 8:18-24
    2. **Positive:** Paul lived what he preached about the old self being put to death with Christ. He wrote, “I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me” (Galatians 2:20)
11. Romans 7:21-25: Mind vs. Flesh
    1. **Negative:** The church at Pergamum had saints that followed after the teachings of Balaam and the Nicolaitans, both of which taught saints to give in to fleshly desires – Revelation 2:14-16
    2. In Num. 31:8, 16 Balaam counseled King Balak to send women into the camp of the Israelites, and their immorality with them caused the plague that killed 24,000 in Num. 25:9.
    3. The Nicolaitans are said to be an early form of the Gnostics. The Gnostics taught that the body was evil and only the spirit was good, so one could do whatever they wished with their body because it did not matter.
       1. From the NET Full Notes on Revelation 2:6:
          1. “They are sometimes associated with Nicolaus, one of the seven original deacons in the church in Jerusalem according to Acts 6:5. The early church father Irenaeus connected them to Nicolaus and further described them as an immoral Gnostic sect *(Adv. Haer. 1.26.3; 3.11.1).* It is unclear however if the association of the Nicolaitans with the Nicolaus of Acts 6:5 is correct as this view may have arisen based on simple name identification rather than a real historical connection. It is also possible that the group adopted the name of Nicolaus to give them credibility *(Eusebius, Eccl. Hist. 3.29.1).”*
    4. **Positive:** The church at Pergamum also had saints who kept their minds on God’s word and persevered in their faith when one of their own members, Antipas, was killed (martyred) – Revelation 2:13
12. Luke 9:62; 14:26-27: Committed vs. Distracted
    1. **Negative:** The church at Ephesus had saints who “lost their first love” – Revelation 2:4-5. The world offers lots of allurements that distract us from our heavenly goals and if they are not checked they will choke the word out of us and we will become unfruitful – Luke 8:14: The Thorny Soil Saint
    2. **Positive:** The church at Philadelphia had only compliments from the Lord. He commended them for being in the world with those of the “synagogue of Satan” but yet keeping His word and persevering in His word. He tells them to hold fast to what they have! Revelation 3:8-11
13. I John 4:20: Love vs. Hate
    1. **Negative:** The Jews who stoned Stephen to death for his defense before the Sanhedrin and Saul of Tarsus who approved of his death and took it upon himself to persecute the church – Acts 7:54-8:3
    2. **Positive:** Stephen, as he was being stoned to death, imitated Jesus on the cross (Luke 23:34) by being loving and merciful to his enemies (Luke 6:27-36) and asked God to forgive them! Acts 7:59-60
    3. **Also Positive:** The church at Thyatira, despite the saints who followed Jezebel in immorality and idolatry, had saints who Jesus commended saying, “I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late are greater than at first” – Revelation 2:19
14. Titus 2:11-14: Righteousness vs. Worldliness
    1. **Negative:** Demas, once a fellow worker with Paul (Colossians 4:14; Philemon 24), deserted Paul, “having loved this present world” – II Timothy 4:10
    2. **Positive:** Paul, in contrast, despite all his different trials (II Corinthians 11), remained steadfast in the Lord, comforted Timothy by saying, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith,” and assured him that “in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day” – II Timothy 4:6-8
15. Matthew 25:32-33, 34, 41, 46: Heaven (Eternal Life) vs. Hell (Eternal Fire) – An eternal separation!
    1. **Negative:** Those who don’t obey the gospel will suffer the penalty of being away from the presence of the Lord for all eternity! – II Thessalonians 1:6-9
    2. **Positive:** The Thessalonian saints were obedient to the gospel and the word of God. Paul says he knows of their love for one another, their perseverance in the faith despite persecution and trials, and says their endurance makes them worthy to enter the kingdom of God – II Thessalonians 1:3-5
16. The word of God says there are many things that do not mix in the life of a Christian and so saints must choose daily who and what they will serve and obey! *(Romans 6:16-18)*

# **Conclusion**

1. Like oil and water are immiscible, so is trying to serve two masters: God and Wealth (Luke 6:13).
2. Despite the distractions, the persecutions, and the trials of life, let us have the honest and good heart of the Good Soil Saint and hold fast to the word of God and be fruitful! (Luke 8:15).
3. If you are not a Christian, you are not serving God but yourself. Repent and be baptized!
4. If a Christian in error, repent and be forgiven!
5. Whatever your requests may be, come forward ***NOW***and let them be known while we stand and sing!