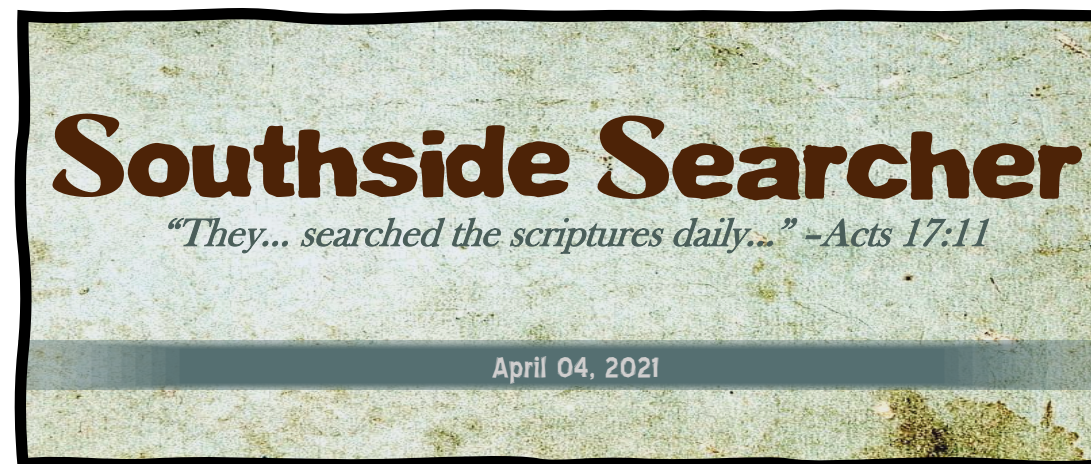


<p><b>DUTY LIST...</b></p> <p><b>SUNDAY MORNING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Announcements.....Michael Pickford</li> <li>➤ Scripture Reading...Eli Todd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-19</li> <li>➤ Song Leader.....Michael Pickford</li> <li>➤ Opening Prayer.....Robert Johnson</li> <li>➤ Lord's Table: Lead.....Michael Pickford Serve.....Eli Todd Serve.....</li> <li>➤ Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd</li> </ul> <p><b>SUNDAY EVENING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Song Leader.....Kenny Todd</li> <li>➤ Opening Prayer...Michael Pickford</li> <li>➤ Invitation.....Michael Pickford</li> <li>➤ Lord's Supper.....Mike P. / Eli T.</li> <li>➤ Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson</li> <li>➤</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God's Plan of Salvation</b></p> <p>There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <u>Hear the Gospel</u>: Romans 10:17</li> <li>➤ <u>Believe</u>: Mark 16:16; John 8:24</li> <li>➤ <u>Repent of Sin</u>: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30</li> <li>➤ <u>Confess Faith</u>: Romans 10:9, 10</li> <li>➤ <u>Be Baptized</u>: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21</li> <li>➤ <u>Remain Faithful</u>: Rev. 2:10</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Obey Today!</b></p>
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## Evil Company

SOME SAY IT IS wrong to teach that “*evil company corrupts good habits*” in general. They explain that in the context of 1 Corinthians 15:33 Paul was discussing false teachers; so, we can only make that application in the realm of false teachers.

It is true that we should avoid false teachers so as not to be deceived by them (Romans 16:17-18). But it is foolish to not recognize that Paul was merely applying a general truth to a specific problem at Corinth. In no way does this restrict us from applying that same truth in other realms.

For example, God commanded Israel to drive out and destroy the inhabitants of the promised land so they would not be corrupted by their iniquities (Deuteronomy 7:1-6). They failed in this respect, and were corrupted as God said they would be. Solomon was influenced and corrupted by his foreign wives. The first verse of the first Psalm warns against getting too close to sinners. And Solomon himself issued such a warning (Proverbs 1:8-15). Verses 15 and 16 say, “*My son, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path; for their feet run to evil...*” And Paul often warned against the corruptive influences of evil people when he spoke about a little leaven leavening the whole lump—not only with false teachers (Galatians 5:9), but also with the morally corrupt (1 Corinthians 5:1-13).

So, “*Do not be deceived: Evil company corrupts good habits*” (1 Corinthians 15:33). Yes, we must live with them in the world, go to work with them, shop with them, and we must certainly try to teach them the gospel. But we must use wisdom when choosing our closest most intimate friends.

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# Is Easter From God?

Many “churches” will be celebrating Easter today. They will host feasts, pageants, plays, Easter egg hunts, etc., all paid for from their church treasuries. Does this please God? Consider...

**A MANGLED TRANSLATION.** Lent, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, etc. have all come to us by way of man-made traditions (Consider Matthew 15:8-9). Jesus did indeed die on the cross for the sins of man, and He arose from the dead, but we have no record of the early church celebrating an “Easter” holiday. Churches who do so depart from scripture when they practice things not authorized in the Bible, and this is condemned (Colossians 3:17; 2 John 9). The KJV translates the Greek *pasca* as “Easter” in Acts 12:4, but the word means “Passover,” and is translated as such in all other places in the New Testament. The Jewish Passover is what is under consideration in the context, not a Christian religion. Herod was trying to please the Jews by waiting until after “Easter” (Passover), but he would have angered the Jews by observing a Christian religion.

**A MAN-MADE TRADITION.** It is sad when men are deceived by their feelings of safety and security in well established, time-worn human traditions. It is tragic when churches that celebrate Easter think they are pleasing God in doing so. Paul thought he was pleasing God while persecuting the Lord’s church (Acts 26:9-11). Many Jews thought they were pleasing God by serving Him according to their own traditional whims (Romans 10:1-3). Many, expecting to go to heaven for their great spiritual works, will be rejected by the Lord (Matthew 7:21-23). Something may be “spiritual” in nature, produce good results, and be a big part of the “Religious community;” but if God did not authorize it, it is “Lawlessness” (Matthew 7:23).

**A MANDATED TRADITION.** God commanded that the local church observe the Lord’s supper every first day of the week to proclaim Christ’s death till He comes (1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7). This is a tradition handed down from God (2 Thessalonians 3:6). But this simple observance with its basic emblems cannot compete with the fun and excitement of pageants, parades, parties, egg hunts and plays hosted by most of the “Churches” of our day. Folks’ minds are blinded by the light of these shiny treats and their hearts are distracted from the true spiritual significance of our Lord’s great sacrifice of love at Calvary.

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# Riches/Possessions

*“Do not overwork to be rich; Because of your own understanding, cease! Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; They fly away like an eagle toward heaven.”*

-Proverbs 23:4-5

*“Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”*

-Luke 12:15

*“Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, **and covetousness**, which is idolatry.”*

-Colossians 3:5

*“But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”*

-1 Timothy 6:9-10

*“Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.”*

-1 Timothy 6:17-19

*“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

-Matthew 6:19-21

*“Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.”*

-Matthew 19:23

*“Give me neither poverty nor riches—Feed me with the food allotted to me; Lest I be full and deny You, And say, “Who is the Lord?” Or lest I be poor and steal, And profane the name of my God.”*

-Proverbs 30:8-9