

1 Corinthians 5:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.

Analysis

And ye are puffed up (πεφυσιωμένοι ἐστέ)—the Corinthians' problem was pride, not ignorance. Rather than grieving over sin, they were arrogant, perhaps viewing their 'tolerance' as sophisticated spirituality or evidence of freedom in Christ. The verb phusioo ("puffed up") appears six times in 1 Corinthians (4:6, 18, 19; 5:2; 8:1; 13:4), always negatively—contrasted with love that "does not boast" (13:4).

Have not rather mourned (έπενθήσατε)—the proper response to sin in the body is grief, not indifference. The verb pentheo denotes deep sorrow, the same word used for mourning the dead. **That he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you**—the goal of discipline is removal from fellowship (exairo, "take away"), protecting the church's purity while creating conditions for the sinner's repentance. Discipline is an act of love seeking restoration, not vengeance.

Historical Context

The Corinthian church reflected the city's philosophical culture, which prized rhetoric, wisdom, and tolerance. Greek philosophy often separated spirit from body, leading some to conclude bodily actions had no spiritual significance. Paul's call to mourn contradicted the Stoic ideal of apathy (absence of passion) valued in Greco-Roman culture.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. Do you grieve over sin in your own life and the church, or have you become desensitized?
2. How can church discipline be exercised in love, not self-righteousness, with restoration as the goal?
3. What pride might prevent you from addressing sin—either fear of seeming intolerant or superior?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ὑμεῖς πεφυσιωμένοι ἐστέ καὶ οὐχὶ μᾶλλον

And **ye** **puffed up** **are** **And** **not** **rather**
G2532 G5210 G5448 G2075 G2532 G3780 G3123

ἐπενθήσατε τίνα ἐξαρθῆ ἐκ μέσου ὑμῶν ὁ τὸ

have **that** **might be taken away** **from** **among** **you** **G3588** **G3588**
G3996 G2443 G1808 G1537 G3319 G5216

ἔργον τοῦτο ποιήσας

deed **this** **he that hath done**
G2041 G5124 G4160

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