

2 Thessalonians 3:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.

Analysis

And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed—escalating discipline: **if any man obey not our word by this epistle** (refuses the written apostolic command), **note that man** (sēmeiousthe touton, σημειοῦσθε τοῦτον, mark him out, identify him publicly). **Have no company with him** (mē synanamignysthai autō, μὴ συναναμίγνυσθαι αὐτῷ, don't associate/mix with)—social withdrawal.

Purpose: **that he may be ashamed** (hina entrapē, ἵνα ἐντραπή, feel ashamed, be brought to repentance). Shunning isn't vindictive but redemptive—designed to produce godly shame leading to change. The church protects its testimony while pursuing the sinner's restoration. This balances grace and accountability.

Historical Context

In close-knit ancient communities, social exclusion was severe punishment. Being 'marked' meant public identification as under discipline. This preserved church purity and motivated repentance more effectively than private reproof. Modern individualism weakens this discipline's power.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does your church practice redemptive discipline for persistent, unrepentant sin?
2. When have you needed loving confrontation that produced godly shame and repentance?
3. How do you balance pursuing restoration with protecting the church's witness?

Interlinear Text

εἰ	δέ	τις	οὐχ	ὑπακούει	τῷ	λόγῳ	ἡμῶν	διὰ	τῆς
G1487	And	G5100	not	obey	G3588	word	our	by	G3588
	G1161		G3756	G5219		G3056	G2257	G1223	
ἐπιστολῆς	τοῦτον	σημειοῦσθε	καὶ	μὴ	συναναμίγνυσθε				
this epistle	that	note	man and	no	company with				
G1992	G5126	G4593	G2532	G3361	G4874				
αὐτῷ	ἵνα	ἐντραπῇ·							
him	that	he may be ashamed							
G846	G2443	G1788							

Additional Cross-References

Titus 3:10 (Parallel theme): A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject;

1 Corinthians 5:11 (Parallel theme): But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an

idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

2 Thessalonians 3:6 (Parallel theme): Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

Psalms 83:16 (Parallel theme): Fill their faces with shame; that they may seek thy name, O LORD.

1 Thessalonians 4:8 (Parallel theme): He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.

Proverbs 5:13 (Parallel theme): And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!

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