

THE CHURCH 67

II CORINTHIANS 6:15

15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

II CORINTHIANS 6:16

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

II CORINTHIANS 6:17

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye ***SEPARATE**, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

SEPARATE: GREEK LEXICON -- STRONG'S NUMBER 873

aphorizo {af-or-id'-zo}

divide, sever, to mark off from others by boundaries, to limit, to separate, to exclude as disreputable, to appoint, set apart for some purpose

II CORINTHIANS 6:18

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

II CORINTHIANS 7:1

1 ¶ Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

[STOP]

EZRA 9:1

1 ¶ Now when these things were done, the princes came to me, saying, The people of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites, **have not separated themselves from the people of**

the lands, doing according to their abominations, even of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites.

EZRA 9:2

2 For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons: **so that the holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of those lands**: yea, the hand of the princes and rulers hath been chief in this trespass.

EZRA 9:3

3 And when I heard this thing, I rent my garment and my mantle, and plucked off the hair of my head and of my beard, and sat down astonished.

EZRA 9:10

10 And now, O our God, what shall we say after this? for we have forsaken thy commandments,

EZRA 9:11

11 Which thou hast commanded by thy servants the prophets, saying, The land, unto which ye go to possess it, is an unclean land with the filthiness of the people of the lands, with their abominations, which have filled it from one end to another with their uncleanness.

EZRA 9:12

12 Now therefore give not your daughters unto their sons, neither take their daughters unto your sons, nor seek their peace or their wealth for ever: that ye may be strong, and eat the good of the land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children for ever.

EZRA 10:10

10 And Ezra the priest stood up, and said unto them, Ye have transgressed, and have taken **strange wives**, to increase the trespass of Israel.

EZRA 10:11

11 Now therefore make confession unto the LORD God of your fathers, and do his pleasure: and separate yourselves from the people of the land, and from **the strange wives**.

EZRA 10:12

12 Then all the congregation answered and said with a loud voice, As thou hast said, so must we do.

GENESIS 14:12

12 And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

GENESIS 14:13

13 ¶ And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner: and these were **confederate with Abram**.

GENESIS 14:14

14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan.

MATTHEW 9:10

10 And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples.

MATTHEW 9:11

11 And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?

MATTHEW 11:18

18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil.

MATTHEW 11:19

19 The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children.

HEBREWS 7:26

26 For such an high priest **became us**, who is holy, harmless, ***UNDEFILED**, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

UNDEFILED: GREEK LEXICON -- STRONG'S NUMBER 283
amiantos {am-ee'-an-tos}
not defiled, unsoiled, free from that by which the nature of a thing is deformed and debased, or its force and vigour impaired.

I CORINTHIANS 5:9

9 ¶ I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators:

I CORINTHIANS 5:10

10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world.

The sense is, that he did not mean to cut them off from all communication with lost men, who were *of this world*,

that is, who were not of the church, and whose vices, of course, did not compromise the purity and character of the

church; but only, as is explained in the [1Co 5:11](#), from every such one, who is called a brother;

I CORINTHIANS 5:11

11 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.

There are so many fornicators, and covetous, and idolaters in this world (*i.e.*, the heathen world) that men *must* meet

with them. But the Christian must tolerate no such sins among themselves; they must exclude from the social

circle any brother who, bearing the name of Christ, indulges in the vices of the heathen world. The Church is

to be the light of the world, and not the recipient of the world's darkness.

I CORINTHIANS 5:12

12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

I CORINTHIANS 5:13

13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

We cooperate with different people at different times for different reasons, but we're careful not to compromise our

witness for Christ. We do some things because it's for the good of humanity and other things because we're citizens

or employees. But whatever we do, we seek to do it to the glory of God.

REVELATION 2:14

14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

REVELATION 2:15

15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.

205-1 PERGAMEAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK
CPT.5

Now in spite of the fact that Balaam knew the proper approach to God and could bring forth a revelation from the Lord by means of a special enduement of power, he was still for all of that a bishop in the false group. For what did he do now in order to win favor with Balak? **He formulated a plan wherein God would be forced to deal with Israel in death.** Just as Satan knew that he could beguile Eve (cause her to fall in fleshly sin) thus

causing God to pass His pronounced sentence of death against sin, so Balaam knew that if he could get Israel to sin, **God would have to deal with them in death**. So he planned a way to get them to come over and join in sin. He sent out invitations to come to the feast of Baal-peor (come over and worship with us). Now Israel, no doubt, had seen the feasts of the Egyptians so they did not feel it was too wrong to go and just look on and perhaps eat with the people. (What is wrong with fellowship any way? **We are supposed to love them aren't we, or how can we win them? Being friendly never hurt anyone--or so they thought.** But when those sexy Moabitish women began to dance and undress while they whirled around doing their rock and roll and twist, the lust rose up in the Israelites and they were drawn into adultery and God in wrath slew forty two thousand of them.

206-1 PERGAMEAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK
CPT.5

And that is what Constantine and his successors did at Nicaea and after Nicaea. They invited the people of God to the convention. And when the church sat down to eat, and rose up to play (partaking of church form, ceremonies, and pagan feasts named after Christian rites) she was trapped; she had committed fornication. And God walked out.

GENESIS 34:5

5 And Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter: now his sons were with his cattle in the field: and Jacob held his peace until they were come.

GENESIS 34:6

6 ¶ And Hamor the father of Shechem went out unto Jacob to commune with him.

GENESIS 34:7

7 And the sons of Jacob came out of the field when they heard it: and the men were grieved, and they were very wroth,

because he had wrought folly in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter; which thing ought not to be done.

GENESIS 34:8

8 And Hamor communed with them, saying, The soul of my son Shechem longeth for your daughter: I pray you give her him to wife.

GENESIS 34:9

9 And make ye marriages with us, and give your daughters unto us, and take our daughters unto you.

GENESIS 34:10

10 And ye shall dwell with us: and the land shall be before you; dwell and trade ye therein, and get you possessions therein.

AMOS 3:3

3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

II CORINTHIANS 6:13

13 Now for a recompence in the same, (I speak as unto my children,) be ye also enlarged.

II CORINTHIANS 6:14

14 Be ye not ***UNEQUALLY** yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

UNEQUALLY: GREEK LEXICON -- STRONG'S NUMBER 2086

heterozugeo {het-er-od-zoog-eh'-o}

to come under an unequal or different yoke, to be unequally yoked; to have fellowship with one who is not an equal:

LEVITICUS 19:19

19 ¶ Ye shall keep my statutes. Thou shalt not let thy cattle gender with a diverse kind: thou shalt not sow thy field with mingled seed: neither shall a garment mingled of linen and woollen come upon thee.

DEUTERONOMY 22:10

10 Thou shalt not plow with an ox and an ass together.

PHILIPPIANS 4:3

3 And I intreat thee also, true ***YOKEFELLOW**, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life.

YOKEFELLOW: GREEK LEXICON -- STRONG'S NUMBER 4805

suzugos {sood'-zoo-gos}

yoked together: of those united by the bond of marriage, relationship, office, labour, study, business, or the like; hence, a yoke fellow, consort, comrade, colleague, partner

THE.HAND.OF.THE.LORD.CAME.UPON.HIM_ LOUISVILLE.KY
SATURDAY_ 54-0403

E-9.....Judah and Israel had broken up and had become two nations, as it was. And Ahab, the king, who got out of God's will by marrying a woman that was not of the faith... Do you know that's still a good thing, young man, to think about, young woman? **Marry someone who is a Christian. Don't marry unbelievers. "Yoke yourself not up among unbelievers."** Paul said for us not to do that. The Scriptures, all through, forbid us, for we... **to yoke ourself with unbelievers.**

BE.CERTAIN.OF.GOD_ JEFF.IN V-5 N-12 SUNDAY_ 59-0125

5 **And then in his wedding**, instead of marrying among his own people, he went over and married a sinner, an idolater, worship of idols. He married Jezebel. And she was not a believer. **And no believer should ever marry an unbeliever, under no circumstances: should always marry believers.** But Ahab had done this evil thing. And no doubt but what Jezebel was a beautiful woman. And he'd fell for what she looked like in the stead of what she was. That's... So many people make that same mistake to this day.

And she had brought idolatry in the nation, among the people. And the people, the priests, their ministers, had fell victim to this great popular demand.

THE.TIME.OF.DECISION_ CHICAGO.IL THURSDAY_ 59-0611

E-13 And this time came, and Abraham was determined that he did not want his son to marry an unbeliever. That would be good decision for a Christians today, who are sons and daughters of Abraham, to make the same decision about their children. Now, it didn't make any difference how pretty those unbelieving girls were, and how nice a women they were, but Abraham did not want his son connected with that kind of stuff. And so he had to make a time of decision on who he should marry.....

SEPARATION.FROM.UNBELIEF_ PHOENIX.AZ MONDAY_ 55-0228

E-16.....You know, boys, I'm telling you tonight, and you young ladies, be careful who you marry; you'll have a broken home the first thing you know. And it's not good to--sinners and Christians to marry together. **Don't be unequally yoked together, 'cause that's what got Ahab.** She was pretty little thing, yes, paint all over her face, eyes like a lizard, but she was a... The thing of it was, that...

Did you know what? That's the truth. That's the... Ahab just fell for her, because she was, perhaps, pretty, because he couldn't have fell for her for character, 'cause she was a murderer; she was everything else. That's right. And Ahab fell for her because she was pretty. And then, he got hisself infatuated with her, and then she just ruled him with her finger.

SEPARATION.FROM.UNBELIEF_ PHOENIX.AZ MONDAY_ 55-0228

E-17 Do you know, the wisest man in the Bible outside of Christ died a heathen idolater because of a bunch of pretty women? Solomon. Pulled him away from God. All right. **Don't yoke yourself up unequally.** And I've seen many people come to the platform, and be healed, and walk away, and mix up

with unbelievers, and their sickness come right back to them again.

THE.CHOOSING.OF.A.BRIDE_ LA.CA V-2 N-28 THURSDAY_ 65-0429E

51 And if we would study what we're doing when we're going to get married, when we choose our wife, our husband, if we'd study it over! **A man should pray earnestly, for he could ruin his entire life.** Remember, the vow is "until death do we part," and he could ruin his life by making the wrong choice. **But if he knows what, he making the wrong choice and is marrying a woman that isn't fit to be his wife, and he does it anyhow, then it's his fault.** If the woman takes a husband and knows that he's not fit to be a husband to you, then that's your own fault, after you know what's right and wrong. So, you shouldn't do it until you thoroughly pray through.

INTER-FAITH MARRIAGE DIVORCE DATA:

Vera Lawlor, from The Bergen Record in Hackensack, NJ., wrote that inter-faith marriages have a failure rate that is 50% higher than same-faith marriages. Since the rate for all marriages is on the order of 50%, this would imply an almost 75% failure rate for inter-faith marriages -- 3 chances out of 4.

Esther Perel, an inter-faith marital therapist, referring to Jewish - Christian marriages, wrote in New York Magazine:
"The difference isn't just between Moses and Christ. You're dealing with issues of money, sex, education, child-rearing practices, food, family relationships, styles of emotional expressiveness, issues of autonomy -- all of these are culturally embedded."

According to a new Pew Research Center report on religion and family life. "Adults who were raised in interfaith households say religion was a less prominent feature in their lives when they were growing up, compared with those in **religiously matched families**," researchers noted.

Pew's survey offers an overview of how the religious make-up of a household impacts family members at a time when more Americans are being raised by parents of different faiths.

Nearly 1 in 3 millennials (27 percent) was raised in a religiously mixed home, compared to 19 percent of baby boomers and 20 percent of Generation X.

These new findings are based on an analysis of Pew's 2014 U.S. Religious Landscape Study, which surveyed more than 35,000 adults, and a recontact survey of 5,000 of the original respondents.

1. Interfaith marriages may weaken religious practice
Americans worry more about a couple's shared interests and sexual compatibility than their religious background when it comes to predicting the success of a marriage, Pew reported.

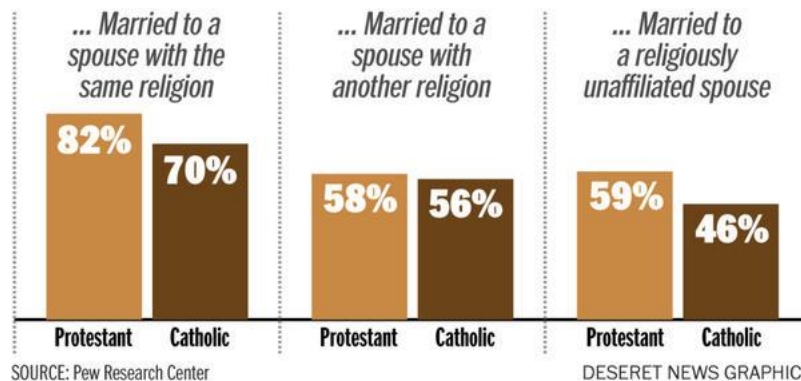
But before getting serious with someone from a different faith background, people should consider how a religiously mixed relationship might affect their own spiritual habits.

Pew's study showed that people in interfaith marriages are less likely to say religion is important in their life, attend worship services regularly, pray frequently and believe in God — all markers of what Pew calls being "highly religious" — than their counterparts in religiously matched marriages.

More than 8 in 10 Protestants (82 percent) married to fellow Protestants are highly religious, compared to 58 percent of Protestants married to non-Protestant believers and 59 percent married to someone unaffiliated with a faith, or nones, Pew reported. There's also a large gap in religiosity between Catholics married to other Catholics (70 percent are highly religious) and Catholics married to nones (46 percent.)

Interfaith marriages and religious practice

Percentage of adults who are highly religious among married people who are ...



Two-thirds of married adults (67 percent) say they discuss religion "a lot" or "some" with their spouse, Pew reported. The frequency of these discussions falls when comparing religiously matched couples to religiously mixed ones, but around half of believers married to someone in a different denomination (62 percent) or someone who is religiously unaffiliated (46 percent) still regularly talk about faith.

Frequency of religious discussions

Percentage of U.S. adults in the following type of marriage who talk about religion "a lot" or "some" with their spouse



Additionally, 3 in 10 people with a different faith background than their partner say religion often sparks arguments, Pew reported.

The findings showed that differences in belief do cause tension in some cases, which can affect a family's ability to thrive religiously.

Partners who practice different faiths may struggle to pray together, which relationship experts sometimes suggest couples do in times of conflict, the [Deseret News reported](#) earlier this year.

"When people pray (about tensions in their relationship) they are helped to see their part in the problem. They're helped to see what they can do themselves to make a difference. And they are helped to soften," noted Mark Butler, a professor of marriage and family therapy at Brigham Young University, in the article.

Couples who share an understanding of the role religion plays in their relationship may also be able to handle marital stress better, such as in the wake of an affair. "The couple may believe that God has a mission for their marriage, and perhaps even brought them together," the [Deseret News reported](#) in September.

Even a slightly lower frequency of religious discussions may have big consequences for a couple's children. Pew's study showed that a child's future religious practice depends, at least in part, on whether or not he or she felt their parents cared a lot about their faith.

For example, "among people with an exclusively Catholic background, for instance, three-quarters of those who say religion was very important to their family while they were growing up (73 percent) describe themselves as Catholics today, compared with just 38 percent among those who say religion was 'not too' or 'not at all' important to their families," Pew reported.

3. Religiously mixed households produce unaffiliated kids more often

In general, the new study showed that children raised in religiously mixed households are more likely than their peers in religiously matched homes to describe themselves as nones when they're adults.