

In Good Company

Scripture

“Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you [from their company], and shall reproach [you], and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man’s sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward [is] great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets. But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation. Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep. Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.” (Luke 6:22-26 AV)

Devotion

The Lord tells us that we are in good company when we are reproached for the Son of man’s sake. That’s because with whom you able to run says something about who you are. The old saying, “Birds of a feather flock together,” is true.

God told Israel not to marry foreign wives because He knew it would corrupt them (Ex 34:12-16). We can draw a conclusion from these warnings. God knows that we will be pulled down and led into sin if we make ourselves at home with evil practices. It doesn’t work the other way because only God can change a heart, and that takes regeneration. Our influence over wicked men and women is only minimal. So don’t be deceived into thinking you will gain an ear for the Gospel by walking side-by-side with the wicked. It is more likely that you will lose your testimony.

God knows how to save the lost. We needn’t compromise our walk to reach people. Just remain faithful, prayerful, and ready to give an answer. Broadcast the seed far and wide, but an evil cloak doesn’t make it more palatable. One of my pastors use to say, “What you win them with is what you win them to.”

The message of the Gospel is repentance and faith in the atoning work of Christ. His righteousness imputed to us through faith. This message will cause men to hate you because it will expose their sin. How can this be accomplished if you walk with them?

“Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:13-16 AV)