

• • TRANSCRIPT

• October 25th, 2026 "*Don't Play The Fool*"

• Pastor Baron Rodrigues

•

Okay, if you have your bibles if you could please turn to first corinthians chapter 15 first corinthians chapter 15 Please stand with me as if you're able to We want to thank those for uh watching by internet. We ask that god would richly bless them and bless us and First corinthians chapter 15 beginning in verse 33 the bible says Be not deceived evil communications corrupt good manners Awake to righteousness and sin not For some have not the knowledge of god. I speak this to your shame Let's pray father we thank you We thank you lord that we can gather here in this meeting house And father most of all we thank you that we have the word of god I ask you now lord that you would help me as I preach your word.

May it be only what you would want me to say And most of all lord may you challenge each and every one of us To take an inventory And father help us help us to live Live for you lord And may our lives honor you So at this time lord, I pray that you would bless your word as it goes out May you give me the power to preach it And this I pray in jesus name. Amen Well, you can be seated at this time And here as we come to first corinthians We know that this was a correcting Epistle the church in corinth. Oh, they had all kind of problems going on in that church And I mean if you read first corinthians Sometimes you would look and figure out are these people even saved amen So as paul issues a warning here to the church at corinth It's also a warning for every believer To take seriously today amen He says be not deceived in other words, don't fool yourself That's what he's saying and the people What he's actually saying here is who you hang around with who you uh Rub up elbows with all the time And you got to be careful the people you associate with The voices you listen to and the influences you allow into your life will shape your behavior You're thinking and really you're thinking And your spiritual condition will be affected by who you hang around with And This is very tough because uh, you know, we're in the world, but we're not of the world.

Amen And then paul adds Awake to righteousness and sin not And when we look at this some believers here were drifting And probably even sleeping spiritually and slipping back into the very sins that christ delivered them from And that's another we we really need to be careful Because it's easy to go back To the old paths. Amen So today as we look at this we see again in first corinthians chapter 15 verse 33 He says be not deceived evil communication corrupts good manners Awake to righteousness and sin not For some have not the knowledge of god I speak this to your shame So again here we find paul the apostle paul Is really trying to wake them up shock them To take a uh an inventory of how they're living So number one as we look at this Number one guide yourself against deception first corinthians 15:33 says be not deceived evil communications were corrupt good manners And paul is saying again be not deceived. Why? Because deception is subtle It's subtle We have an enemy Who doesn't come right out in your face? He subtly Begins to deceive you.

Amen And it creeps in quietly It convinces us that we can handle certain influences in our lives certain friendships Certain conversations when in reality They are shaping us more than we know This is what should be shaping our minds. Amen It's the word of god And a lot of times and I know trust me when I say this we have friends we have family We have co-workers that we're always around and believe it or

not There are good people out there but they may have a worldview And if you continually listen to them in that worldview It's going to shape you and it's going to pull you from what god has called you to do. Amen First corinthians chapter 15:33 says evil communications corrupts good manners You know, I everyone knows most of you know I grew up in the projects And there was a lot of evil around me And my mother always said bad company corrupts Good character, isn't that true? I mean, that's uh, uh, maybe that's only been said in the old days, but we need to revisit that today.

Amen And let me just say it this way hearing wrong voices will produce wrong choices It's so true And the more you listen to people The more you listen, uh to those around you who don't have a biblical view. They're going to pull you away From how god wants you to react to things how god wants you to think amen So when you look at that in verse 33 evil communications that word communications is really uh company evil company people that uh, uh pulling you to do things that Contrary to what god has called you to do You know god has called us to be holy for he is holy. Amen in proverbs chapter 13 verse 20 proverbs chapter 13 verse 20 The bible says he that walketh with the wise men shall be wise but a companion of fools shall be destroyed Man that's something to really be thinking about amen And the only only wise that I know is someone who knows the word of god Somebody who's walking with god And you'll become like the people you walk with Why because bad company and conversations are likely to make you into bad men bad people And it's so true You know growing up.

I seen this a lot I was caught up in it you would find that one strong person and Man, he was doing some ugly stuff. And guess what? He would drive everybody to do the same thing And i'm speaking to you young people Amen You got a whole life to grow to to to live And you can make the wrong choices as a young person And find yourself in prison find yourself in a bad place And this is why the scripture commands us to be separate Look with me, uh second Second corinthians second corinthians chapter six second corinthians chapter six here in verse 14 Second corinthians chapter 6 verse 14 Now this is bible This is not not anybody's opinion. This is the word of god and what does it say it says Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers For what fellowship hath the righteousness with unrighteousness And what communion Hath light with darkness Can you see it? You know all through the old testament we we see the same understanding How god had had called israel to himself And then he Developed the laws for them to live by and these laws were what to separate From those other nations around them Because they would draw the israelites to their gods to their way of thinking today It's the same thing The world says it doesn't matter who you hang around with and what you do So That's the whole catchphrase today But god says it matters more than you think And sometimes you and I we begin to what just kind of relax.

Oh, yeah this you know, i'd like him I'd like her Be careful Turn with me to galatians Galatians chapter six And if you're in second corinthians, it's the next It's the next epistle and here in galatians chapter six, look what it says again be not deceived God is not mocked For whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap be careful Be careful Be not deceived secondly Remember your deliverance Amen Turn back to first corinthians chapter 15 again And here we're looking at these two scriptures in first corinthians chapter 15 Again, look what it says in verse 34 Awake to righteousness And sin not For some have not the knowledge of god I speak this to your shame So what is he saying? He's what he's saying is remember your deliverance. You are not like them I have saved you and pulled you out of all that And paul reminds the corinthians that god delivered them from the bondage So why even turn back to it? Again, if you're still in galatians, I know I we went back to first Corinthians but if you are in galatians turn turn to galatians chapter four galatians chapter four in verse three The bible says even so we when we were children Were in bondage under the elements of the world What he's saying here is when you were saved before you got saved you was just like the world You thought like the world you acted like the world You spoke like the world and then he says In verse four, but when the fullness of

the time was come God sent forth his son made of a woman made under the law To redeem them that were under the law That we might receive the adoption of sons See when we were once in bondage under the elements of the world thinking and listen caught and under the power of sin God freed us from that Amen God freed us from that and what happens is A christian will begin to get comfortable in his christianity And will forget that he's been called out of the world and begin to what drift back into those habits drift back into the way of thinking And the bible says be careful And remember You've been delivered out of all that Those around you don't understand They can't understand They haven't been given the holy spirit to guide them To comfort them to teach them to convict them. We have the holy spirit in us In galatians chapter 4 verse 9. Look what it says But now after that ye have been known That ye have known god or rather are known of god How turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements? Where unto ye desire again to be in bondage? How many times people under the word of god Have been taught by the word of god get saved But not growing in the word of god and easily deceived And forget That they've been delivered This is a problem This is a problem Why go back to what you were enslaved to amen You know, uh the great I think the greatest Field that god uses and saves from Is the field of addiction? drug abuse alcohol abuse and all those other abuses praise god for ralph And what he does on wednesday nights Amen And what is that to do to remind people? To remind people don't get deceived you know You know that one after you've stopped smoking for a couple years that one it's all you need Amen to get you right back where you were at, you know sometime maybe you know somebody Three years four years Sobriety little problems in their life There's a little nip right there All they needed to do is say oh I can handle this You're being deceived Oh, I can take this one nip it's not gonna hire me You're being deceived You forgot what god? Has pulled you out of? What god has freed you from that one nip Might bring you worse than where you was at Amen Are you hearing me? Why go back? Galatians chapter 5 verse 1 says stand fast therefore in the liberty Where with christ had made us free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage What is god saying there he has saved you from the sin from the bondage of your sin He have given you in a and adopted you as a child of god giving you his spirit To help you to guide you and giving you his word And he says be careful be not deceived You know, but there's some christians that misunderstand Liberty There's some christians that misunderstand that and think oh now i'm saved I can do whatever I want Not There's a false teaching out there Oh, you're all right.

Oh, you you uh said a prayer and accepted jesus christ Oh, you don't need to go to church You you you don't need to hang around with all those, uh christians That uh, uh not hanging with the the the fun crowd the The cool crowd and they think that liberty means freedom to do whatever they want But god gave you liberty not to sin Not liberty to sin But liberty not to sin now, how can you do that? Because now you have a power greater than you that Uh that uh lies in you and that's the holy spirit amen But you have to remember you've been delivered And i'm here to tell you that Sin will always take will always take you Further than you wanted to go And keep you longer than you wanted to stay Isn't that true? That's where you got to be careful You got to remember hey, he has saved me out of this you got to put on your armor You got to be prayed up you got to be surrendered to the holy spirit You got to be listening to the spirit not listening to your crowd Amen can I get an amen there? And then wake up spiritually Here in first corinthians chapter 15 verse 34 the apostle paul He says awake He says awake to righteousness This is almost like a uh Like a command this is almost like he's shaking them out of their slumber I don't want to scare anybody that but you know, if I raise my voice and say awake that's what he's trying to do You're being deceived You're forgetting who you are awake You're god's people now, I know it's I know it's hard I'm here to tell you. I know sometimes it's lonely I know when you stand alone Because you stand with christ I understand that But don't be deceived Don't be deceived Paul says awake To righteousness Wake up spiritually shake off the slumber. Can I say it like this stop drifting? Amen We're all drifting We forget We need to be awake we need to be focused Stop drifting Romans chapter 13 verse 11 says this and that knowing the time that now it is high time Awake out of

sleep for now is our salvation nearer Than when we believed This was written 2 000 years ago Can I tell you? We are closer than ever before You look around and you look what's going on in the earth the world right now You look It's getting bad But that's what christ said Matthew chapter 24 you read that out We are living in those days Amen The hour is late Christ's return is nearer than ever And this is no time for spiritual drowsiness No time to be drifting No time to get tired for rowing against against the current Isaiah chapter 1 verse 16 says this wash you Make you clean put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes Cease to do evil

You know, Paul adds over here in verse 34 of 1 Corinthians chapter 15, he says, awake to righteousness, and then he says, and sin not. Amen? And sin not. Why is he saying that? Because if once you are drifted, once you forget your position in Christ, you're easily deceived.

And your deception will bring you in sinfulness. Stop tolerating what God condemns as sin. Amen? I see it all the time.

Oh, it's okay. No, it's not okay. Oh, yeah, we can do this.

No, you can't. That's ungodly. Do you know what ungodly is? Here's the definition that I like to say.

Godliness is God's way. That's easy, right? How do you know godliness? Here, do it God's way. Amen? What's ungodly when you close that Bible and you listen to the world's view, when you think, oh, this is okay, oh, that's okay.

I mean, we've come to a place here. We've come to a place in our state where they have, by law, allowed abortion before the birth of a child. Can you imagine that? Due date is tomorrow.

Well, you know what? I'm going to abort it. And people think that's okay. People think that's okay.

Taking a life, taking a life of a human being, a two-month-old baby, the whole world would be freaking out. Drive-by shooting, a two-month-old baby was killed by a drive-by shooting. The whole world would be up in arms over that.

But it's okay to kill that baby in the womb? Where are we going? My Bible says thou shalt not kill. Amen? Paul says in verse 34, and sin not. Then he gives a heartbreaking reason.

He gets a heartbreaking reason why the Christian who's been called out of sin, who's been filled with the Holy Spirit, who's been, their bondage has been broken. He gives a heartbreaking reason. Look what it says in verse 34 again, 1 Corinthians chapter 15, verse 34.

He says, some don't know God. Amen? Some don't know God. Look at verse 34 again.

I'll read the whole thing. It says awake to righteousness and sin not, for some have not the knowledge of God. And then he says, and I speak to your shame.

I believe what he's saying is there were people in the church living in such a way that Paul says some have not the knowledge of God because they were not saved. They were part of the church, but they didn't have salvation. And they were living the way they were living.

Now, I don't know who's saved or who's not. I'm not the Holy Spirit. I'm not God.

But the Bible does say you may know them by their fruits. Amen? You may know them by their fruits. What I'm saying is their lifestyle was opposite to their profession of faith.

And you see that in a lot of churches. You see that everywhere. Churches filled.

But is everyone that comes in a church is saved? I don't believe that. Titus chapter 1, verse 16 says, they profess that they know God, but in works they deny him. Being abominable and disobedient and unto every good work reprobate.

Turn with me to Ephesians. Ephesians. Ephesians chapter 4. While you're looking for that, think of this.

God has given us the responsibility. And can I say this? This is not the pastor's responsibility. I don't have.

I don't have influences on your friends. I don't have influence at your job site. God has given you a circle of influence for you to influence them for Christ.

Not the other way around. In Ephesians chapter 4. Verse 17. The Bible says this.

This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord that ye henceforth walk, not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind. Having the understanding darkened. Being alienated from the life of God.

Through the ignorance that is in them. Because of the blindness of their heart. What's the blindness of their heart? No faith.

Living for themselves. Amen. And listen, those who don't know God walk in darkness.

To work all in cleanliness and blindness of heart. It's up to you and I to be the salt and the light that we've been called to do. But we can't do it if we're walking just like them.

If we're thinking just like them. If we're talking just like them. Amen.

Some don't know God. And that's what he's talking about. Those in their company in the church.

But this means everywhere else. The people around you don't know God. And can I say some of them are good people.

And yes, good people go to hell. And that's what breaks my heart. I know good people.

And I hope we're not a bad testimony. And I'm here to tell you, your testimony matters. Your holiness matters.

Your influence matters. Sometimes, sometimes God would put you in a predicament. In a situation where you have to do the right thing.

And all eyes are watching you. And I'm here to tell you that the world is always trying to fit in with the world because they don't want the spotlight on them. They don't want to be canceled.

You know what that word means, right? Canceled, right? I'm here to tell you sometimes those who are

seeking something better than themselves. Something that they're trying to figure out life. There's an emptiness, a hole in their heart.

And sometimes they're just looking for somebody who will stand up for truth. And sometimes God will put you in a position or in a predicament or in a situation where he's waiting for you to be the David. Where everybody's in fear for you to stand up, straighten up, and stand on his side.

Even if you're standing alone. And I'm here to tell you when others look around and they see that you're standing for the truth. That you're standing for doing the right thing.

I'm here to tell you some of those around will begin to look at you and see the salt and the light in you. And begin to draw to Christ. But if we're drifting, if we're just like the world, we're not going to be able to stand out for him.

He's waiting. He's looking for someone to wake up, to wake up and be holy. And live for righteousness.

Amen. Listen, our testimony is all we have. Our integrity is all we have.

If you're lying here and you're lying there, you're losing out on your integrity. You may have a crowd following you. But stand up and do what's right.

And you young people, you young people, it's hard out there. You want to fit in, but I'm telling you right now, if you're a child of God, you already fit in. Christ loves you already.

And he's giving you an identity. And that's not of the world. That's not of the world.

He wants us to stand and be courageous and do what's right. Wake up. Wake up.

Amen. Why don't we stand? You know, living in the projects, there was this older girl. She was so pretty.

She was so sweet. And then she started to hang with a crowd. And they began to deceive her.

She had everything going for herself. But then she was deceived. She thought it was great.

People liked her. She started hanging with that crowd. And then all of a sudden, they introduced her to things she had no business being a part of.

Years had gone by. And that beautiful, bright-lighted woman was now on a street corner, deceived. Why the Bible says, be not deceived.

God is not mocked. What you sow, then is what you reap. And I'm here to tell you, we have an enemy.

We have an enemy. And he wants to deceive. And he wants to divide.

And he wants to destroy. Amen. Let's pray.

Father, we come to you, Lord. Help us. Help us not to play the fool.

Help us to awake. Help us, Lord, to draw nigh to you as you draw nigh to us. Help us to surrender to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Most of all, Lord, help us to be courageous. Courageous believers who love you more than the world. Who stand for truth more than deception.

And I ask you, Lord, that you would wake us up and remind us of the times that we're living in. And, Father, help us to run our race. Yes, we get tired.

Yes, we start to linger behind. But, Father, give us the strength to live strong for you so that we will finish our race and then one day stand before you and hear that glorious saying, well done, thou good and faithful servant. Father, I pray that for our church.

I pray that for every man here, every woman here, every father here, every mother here. I pray that for every child who is listening because the deceptor is subtle. Father, help us never to forget who we are.

And, Father, use us in a mighty way. Make us all to be Davids. To have walking, courageous faith.

In this I pray in Jesus' name, amen.