

Estranged Believers 3

A TIME TO LEAVE

2Tim. 3:1 *This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.*

2Tim. 3:2 *For men shall be lovers of their own-selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,*

2Tim. 3:3 *Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,*

2Tim. 3:4 *Traitors, beady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;*

2Tim. 3:5 *Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*

- When it comes to ministries, we may have to break fellowship as well if the ministry is not moving in a God given, Kingdom direction. There are various reasons why we may have to leave certain fellowships but we must remember that it's OUR choice where we fellowship and who we choose to be in fellowship with.
- Because God is not concerned with the building made by hands, he is concerned about what he built. So, if we are the church, then we must protect God's investment. We must choose wisely who and where we fellowship so we can keep our hearts and minds centered on God's word and not man's ambitions. **James 3:16** *For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and every kind of evil.*
- So many preachers want to build monuments in their honor at your expense. They want to use God's people to live lavishly while not providing truth to the people. God would rather have you stay home than fellowship under a false prophet that is self exalting, so we must be careful where we place ourselves and our families. **Titus 1:7** *An elder must live a blameless life because he is God's minister. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered; he must not be a heavy drinker, violent, or greedy for money.*



- You will always know when it's time to remove yourself from a church, but the real question is, will you be able to do it? Leaving a church is like leaving all your money in a bank, because you have given to support it. You have prayed and many times grown up in that fellowship so, it's a very hard place to be in. But when it's time to move, you do not want to linger because you can and will MISS GOD in the process and your focus is then on man instead of what God wants for you.

Time to leave:

1. Fear - 2Tim. 1:7 **For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.**

When you are afraid to leave a ministry because something bad may happen, or the pastor has scared you into believing that it's the wrong decision, then it's time to go. It's always ok to leave a church for their church. But if you try to leave them, they call you a devil.

2. Divorce - Col. 3:19

Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them. When the

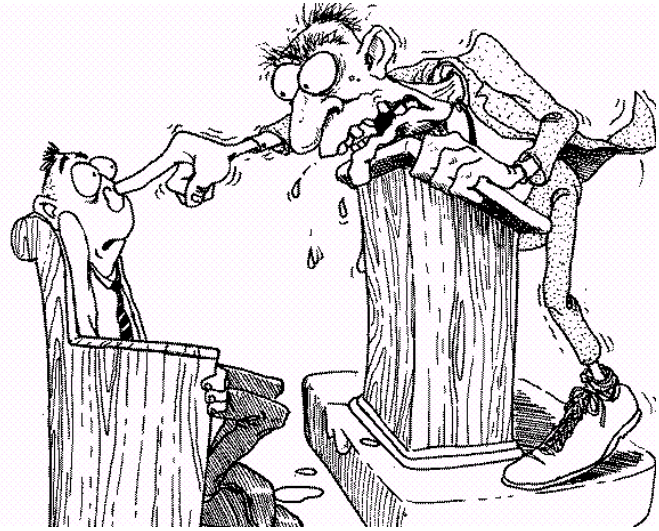
pastor divorces his wife, it's time to go. Bottom line, if he

can't keep his home together, he can't help your home stay together. Leave

- 3. Worldliness - 1John 2:15** **Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.** When the church becomes worldly and tries to mix the sacred with the profane, lust and perversion is always present. When you love the world, you love what is in the world. Lust!
- 4. Homosexuality - Titus 1:16** **They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.** A flame is a sure sign of a fire. If homosexuality is unchallenged in a ministry, it's IN the minister. Gay men don't follow real men and vice versa.

5. **Money - 1Tim. 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.** Whenever money is the focus, money is god. The spirit of God will not compete with mammon.
6. **Father god king - Matt. 23:8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.** Whenever the pastor desires to be served by the people rather than serve the people, he is out of order and you should remove yourself.
7. **Struggle - Prov. 17:14 The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water: therefore leave off contention, before it be meddled with.** Whenever it's a struggle to go to church, sit through the service, and even invite others with you, then you should leave. Why put yourself through all that. It's your choice!
8. **Bad Company - 1Cor. 15:33 Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for bad company corrupts good character.** You can tell a lot about a person by the company they keep. If their leadership is messed up, then they are messed up. If they are under perverted leaders then their desire for promotion is greater than their desire for God.
9. **Famine - 1Pet. 2:2 You must crave pure spiritual milk so that you can grow into the fullness of your salvation. Cry out for this nourishment as a baby cries for milk,** Where there is no nourishment, things won't grow! If you are not being fed, you will die. Some preachers messages are like light beer. Taste great, but less filling. Do not linger too long around fellowships where a sound word from God is not present. It's just not worth it. You must eat!
10. **Control - Eph. 5:23 For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of his body, the church; he gave his life to be her Savior.** A pastor that is controlling is the son of satan! Controlling your home, your finances, your wife and children is witchcraft. The pastor should lead the ministry but not your home. When your wife, husband, or children become second to the pastor, then he is your lord.

Summary - The hour is late and we have no time to waste. When it's time to move from a fellowship, then you can't afford to delay. Sure, there is no perfect church, and all fellowships has it's flaws. But minor preferences differ from unbiblical antics. When a church or fellowship moves away from biblical mandates, it's in



trouble and should be avoided. No matter how long you been there or how much they may have helped you in the past, you must not linger where the Spirit of Lord is not promoted. And when services are no longer focused on the work of God, it's a sure sign that God is no longer in the midst

1Tim. 6:11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.