

Notes Taken from a Recorded Message Preached by Danny Layne on

EXCOMMUNICATION

Moreno Valley, California

Friday, March 23, 2001

I want to preach this morning, or teach, on the subject of “excommunication.” We are the church. And the church has authority. The church has more authority than the federal government of the United States of America. The church has more authority than the United Nations.

There have been a lot of questions, just how much authority does the church have. Well it has a lot. And that’s what we want to deal with this morning.

We’re dealing with heretics, apostates, hypocrites, blasphemers. And, being the church, we have to feel about those sins like God feels.

We do not believe that we are a church among churches. We do not believe that we are *the best* of the Church of God groups. **WE ARE THE CHURCH OF GOD. WE ARE THE ONE CHURCH OF GOD.** And we have authority over the devil, and we have authority over the hypocrite, and we have authority over the blasphemer, and we rejoice in that! ... Mathew 16:18-19.

One of the reasons that the gates of hell will not prevail against the church is because God has placed within the church a certain authority over the gates of hell. ... I’ll give unto the church the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatsoever THE CHURCH, the called out of God, the true saints of God, shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth, shall be loosed in heaven. There is a false doctrine today that my religion is between me and God, and God is the only one that can discipline me, and God is the only one that can restrain me, and God is the only one that can let me go. **But I want to tell you, it comes down to THE CHURCH!** God gave *THE CHURCH* the binding and loosing power, and it can bind you and it can loose you. He meant for the church to use the authority He gave it so that the gates of hell, or the ways of falsehood should not prevail against the church.

Matt. 18:15

The church has authority to be a court and a judge in spiritual matters and to be the final authority. And then **if the church makes the decision regarding someone and their spiritual condition, that decision is final, and God backs it up! GOD BACKS IT**

UP!!! Don't forget, THIS is the body of Christ. Amen. [You] say, what if they make a mistake? We're supposed to deal with cases where it couldn't make a mistake.

John 20:23

That is strong and that is Bible! This says that if the church doesn't recognize you're clear, you're not clear! If the church thinks you're dirty, you're dirty! Amen. Now [you say], "I don't see it." You ask the church, and they'll help you to see where you are. That's one of the things the church is supposed to do is to help each one of us individually see who we are, where we are, and whether we're clean or dirty. Now, if it [John 20:23] doesn't mean that, would you tell me what it does mean? I don't know how else to receive this scripture.

Hebrews 13:17

We see here that he is instituting an authority in the church that must be obeyed, a rule over us, and he is calling for obedience. There is authority in the church. There is rule over. God has placed some people over other people. And He has placed all of us, in a sense, in subjection to one another as the body. Didn't He say, "all of you be subject one to another?" But all of us have somebody ruling over us. Now let me just ask you this morning, have you considered who your ruler is? The Bible says, obey them that have the rule over you, and it would be impossible for you to do that unless you know who it is. Who is it? God, He's the one, sure He is. Anybody else? This doesn't say "obey God," it says "obey THEM that have the rule over you." ... Obey them, and submit. ... This thing of submission is just a foreign concept today in our society. Just submit, just submit. You know if you never thought you were right there wouldn't be any need for submission. But to think you're right and submit anyway, because God has put the authority on the other side, that takes real grace from heaven. I'm not talking about sin now, I'm talking about things that maybe [you] just see different, and the one that has the rule over you said, no, you need to submit. Well, they ought not have to remind you. You ought to be submitting in the first place.

Let's go back into the Old Testament. Now you know the principle that doctrines that were taught in the Old Testament, some of them were types, and they were fulfilled in the New Testament. ... But there are some things that were taught in the Old Testament that were carried over specifically by scripture into the New Testament dispensation and haven't changed that much. Now I want to read here in Exodus 12:15. Anything that we teach in the New Testament needs to have its type in the Old Testament, so we can know that it's been the teaching of God all along.

Exodus 12:15

And so, He's saying here, in effect, if you have somebody among you and they're claiming to be an Israelite (I put it in the New Testament sense), they're claiming to be a Jew, and they're eating leavened bread, cut them off. Now what does He mean, "cut off?" That means a separation. ... Notice here, He did not say, "I will cut them off." He said, "cut them off." **YOU cut them off.**

Exodus 30:33

Leviticus 7:20

1 Cor. 5:1

There are people that we need to be sad if they come in the midst, and we need to mourn if they're comfortable. Some that left said, "I never did like it when Bro. Danny used to preach 'we don't want everybody.'" Well, it's truth! I'll say it again, "WE DON'T WANT EVERYBODY!!!" We don't need everybody. Some people are a danger. Some people are a reproach. Some people will cause our young people to go astray. Some people will lead into false doctrine. Some people will lead into heresy. Some people will lead saints into hypocrisy. We want everybody who wants God. We want everybody who wants the Word. We want everybody that will humble themselves like the Bible says to, to receive what God has for them, but those who are stiff-necked, or those who have their own agenda, or an agenda from hell, we do not want them.

1 Cor. 5: 3

Oh brother! Man-rule from a distance! The man never even saw it! Wasn't even there, wasn't in the same city. He said, "I've judged already as though I were present concerning him that hath so done this deed, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit."

2 Cor. 13:1 – 10

There comes a time when there has to be sharpness. There comes a time when there has to be judgment. ...

1 Tim. 1:19-20

I believe that he's talking about excommunication here.

Titus 3:9

1 Cor. 5:9-11

That's strong now. I did a little studying into it. There's maybe a little wiggle room – not very much. ... Brother, you can't avoid some things, and when somebody is fighting the

holy Church of God you cannot cross over that to be friendly to them. ... You cannot have fellowship with them. Do you hear me? That's what the Bible says. ... I'm talking about the ones that get around our teenagers and whisper in their ear, "aren't you tired of that? You know God doesn't really require all that of you. If you ever want a place to go, just call me. (And they slip you a little paper with their number on it.) [And say], Don't worry about the money, I'll take care of it." ... I'm talking about people who assist people into hell.

Now, maybe I feel more violent about this than anybody here this morning, but I tell you, this makes my hackles go up on the back of my neck! ... It is my opinion, and I believe it's Bible, not just my opinion, but I believe it's Bible this morning, that when someone does that kind of thing, they need to be publicly excommunicated. – PUBLICLY EXCOMMUNICATED, by the ministry and by the saints, and that we need to join in a holy agreement that we will not have commerce, trade, or association with them until they decide to do right and stop blaspheming the work of God. Let me tell you what I feel like that means – what it translates out to. I feel like there are some people you shouldn't have any social contact with at all. If you run into them at Wal-Mart, just nod and walk on. Because they have proven every time, along the way, anyone who would talk to them, they would blaspheme, they would try to hurt the work. We need to let them know we know who they are.

You have an uncle that maybe has a little money, and a real desire to see your family released from all this horrible bondage. And the children are little now, and he's just nice, and he brings candy, and he talks comfortably to them, he's their friend! And he brings them toys mommy and daddy can't bring them, and HE'S WAITING!!! Laying a foundation. Because he knows the days will come when that child will begin to question, that child will begin to have a little more freedom, and then at that time he's going to say, "Come on, come on, now it's time, run, RUN, RUN, RUN!!! I'll help you, RUN, RUN!!!" And he gets them to run into the arms of the devil! And as far as I'm concerned, anyone that helps one of our young people to be unsaved, or to leave the truth, the one who drove the car, the one who paid for the ticket, the one who bought their first meal, the one who gave them a bed to sleep in, they are all a part of it, and THEY ALL ARE EXCOMMUNICATED!!! And they're not welcome on the camp ground, they are not welcome at the revival, and if they come on the grounds we will ask them to please excuse themselves until they can come to the ministry and repent. Now, if we didn't do that, we wouldn't be Church of God.

One man, I told him, "You go to your motor home, and you gather your things." He had made a statement. He had been warned several times about making negative comments on the campgrounds, and I told him, "**One more time and you're out of here!**" And he was in the bathroom, shaving or something, and he was next to [beside] another brother, and he told the brother, "You know, if these young people here at this camp meeting keep this up, next year they'll be rolling in the aisles." And the brother came and told me [what

he said]. I thought, “That’s it. Now, that’s it!” I went to him, and I told him, “You get over in your motor home, and you pack up and get your things together, and you head off these grounds, and I’ll give you half an hour to do it!” He said, “You can’t do that.” I said, “It’s a done deal!” You know what he did? This will show you how slimy those spirits are. He said, “Could I at least stay for services if I don’t eat in the dining hall?” [I said], “Not on your tin time! Get out! Get out!” A short while later they were pulling off the grounds. That man died in that condition, pitiful condition. But we are not supposed to entertain devils unawares. First of all, we’ve got to be aware, we’ve got to be able to tell a devil from an angel, and we’re not playing host to just whatever the devil sends out of the pits of hell to do damage. Amen! The reason I am preaching this to you this morning, and teaching this, is this: **we are going to be implementing this procedure like we never have before!** It’s time! We are at the place in this restoration where we cannot afford to give place to the devil. The Bible says, “neither give place to the devil,” and if we do it we’re guilty before God. We’ve got to stand like the Church of God of the morning time and do what we need to do! May God help us. If we don’t, the judgments are going to be on us.

We laid a judgment down in this last little deal that happened (and I call it a little deal, because they think it’s a big deal – they think it’s big, I think it’s little, and anything they think is little, I think is big – I’m just opposed to them every way I can be). The fact that we said they were unsaved. Oh my, now that hit! Listen, all the other stuff that was going on that was being said, and all the other things we did, and everything else, it didn’t do much, but when we laid judgment down and said they weren’t saved! Oooooohhhh! And they weren’t, and they aren’t! So now whenever the saints meet them any place they just get out quickly as they can. And it’s helping! ... **I wish we could just be everywhere they are, then they couldn’t be anywhere!** I wish we knew their itinerary, [but] they won’t tell us. We’d meet them on the street, we’d know when they are in Wal-Mart, we’d make our aim to buy our groceries then! Bless your soul! I’d love to run into them any time, anywhere, any place! They can praise the Lord and smile all they want to – they’ve got dirty hearts and dirty hands! They’re unclean! They need to know they’re unsaved! They won’t be saved until they repent and come back to the holy Church of God. No way! No other way! ... When you tackle the Church of God, you better be ready!

I believe there are people even now who need to be notified by an official communication from the ministry on church letterhead: “**YOU ARE EXCOMMUNICATED!!!**” Which means no communication with the saints until you will come back and acknowledge to the ministry that you are wrong, and that you will no longer fight the work. I’m not saying that they have to be saved, I’m just saying they have to acknowledge that they will not fight the work any more, and they are sorry for having fought it. If they’ll go that far, we’ll release them from the excommunication. In the meantime, any time we would meet with them would be to discuss the issues. Sometimes not even that. Because some of them are aware enough of the issue that it would just be a matter of going over and vain

jangling. We've got to be careful of our association. Evil communication corrupts good manners. ... I told you I thought this would get a little more interesting as we go into it.

One of the people that should receive such a letter is *(name removed for privacy)* of Atlanta, Georgia. He needs to know that he has done the work of the devil, and we know it! He was once among us for a period of time, and proclaimed that he loved this truth, and took his stand. He is out preaching [now] for a sectarian work and trying to attract our young people to get saved under that abomination of desolation. And we are not to have communication with him. We don't need it. **I've already instructed and sent word that if his daughter ever tries or attempts to come to ANY service of the saints, whether it be wedding, funeral, or anything else, she will be immediately asked to leave the grounds.** She has made herself a little temptress, to try to seduce our young people. And we need to proclaim it from the housetops! Babylon will let such things go, but the Church of God won't.

Number two on the list: *(name removed for privacy)*, whom we love, grew up among us, knew the doctrines, and is fighting the saints, and is encouraging our young people to do the same kinds of immoral things that she did, opens her home and makes it a place for people wanting to go to hell. She needs a letter FROM THE CHURCH!!! She needs to be excommunicated! It's time for the church to be the church! For us not to lay down and let the devil walk over us, and let people feel like they can just do what they want with the Church of God and nobody is going to do anything.

Rom. 13:1-7

This scripture is often talking about our duties to the state, and I believe it has that in mind also, but I believe the principle thought in this scripture is the **authority of the ministry**. It's dealing with all powers that are ordained of God. ... For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. And they ARE a terror to the evil. **They're supposed to be a terror to the evil.** ... Amen. May the Lord bless you. I wanted to make this very clear because you're going to be hearing about this, and people will be questioning this. They will say, "**Now we know it's a cult! We've been saying it, now we know it, this cleans it up, has to be true now!**" Are you ready with an answer? Do you have your notes? It's either Bible or it's not. If it's not, come to me after this service and show me where I've gone outside the Bible. [You say], "I don't like you calling out names." That's what this is about! That's exactly what this is about!!! Hymenaeus, Philetus [2 Tim. 2:17], Deotrefes [3 John, verse 9], Ananias, Sapphira [Acts 5:1-11], NAMES! Publicly called out in the scriptures! Demas [2 Tim. 4:10], two thousand years later! **Well, if these don't repent that we named, may their names ring out among the saints as long as we exist.** I remember when so and so, *(name removed for privacy)*, was excommunicated! He was a bird of prey that was preying on our young people. And the ministers of old put him down, took care of him! Amen. If the Lord tarries and 40 years go by, I hope you'll remember. If later on the ministers get weak-kneed (and hopefully

they're not) and are afraid to name out names, [you can] say, "I remember one old-timer that did it."