

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for October 17, 2010

“Do Not Be Bound Together With Unbelievers”
2 Corinthians 6:14

2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1 comprise a very carefully structured, closely argued and theologically rich climax of Paul’s apostolic defense he began in 2 Corinthians 2:12 and continued through 2 Corinthians 6:13.

What are the basic elements of his carefully structured climax of his apostolic defense in 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1?

The first element was Paul’s command to “not be bound together with unbelievers” (2 Corinthians 6:14).

The word “bound” (HEROZUGEO) means to join together with one not of the same kind and is often also translated “yoked.”

We should consider ourselves “bound” or “yoked” to an unbeliever when our relationship with them is undermining our devotion to Christ, hindering our service to Christ, or diminishing our attachment to the body of Christ.

The command to not be bound with unbelievers should not in any way discourage us from reaching out to the lost of this world. It only means that we must be careful when doing so.

When Paul commanded the Corinthians not to be bound together with unbelievers he was specifically thinking in terms of his opponents within the church, who through professing to be Christians proved otherwise by what they said and did.

Though becoming bound to any unbeliever is a dangerous thing, the most dangerous thing by far is to become bound to an unbeliever within the church who professes to be a Christian but who opposes the truth.

May God protect us as we go into the world with the gospel of Christ from becoming bound to unbelievers so that we might go forth in power and with undistracted devotion.