

ACTIVE APOSTOLIC RIGHTEOUSNESS

Why We Separate from the World

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Written by Elder Keith Joel Walker

Key Scripture

"Abstain from all appearance of evil." —1 Thessalonians 5:22

Devotional Thought

Active Apostolic righteousness is more than claiming to be holy — it is a lifestyle of holiness, separation, and consecration unto God. When the Holy Ghost fills us, He empowers us to walk differently, think differently, and live differently from the world.

Separation is not optional; it is the fruit of righteousness. Because we are His, we must abstain from every appearance of evil, even the things the world says are "harmless fun."

Why We Separate

- 1. Theaters and Entertainment Halls
- Worldly films glorify sin, perversion, and rebellion against God.
- Psalm 101:3 "I will set no wicked thing before mine eves."

• We refuse to feed our souls on entertainment that mocks God.

2. Pool Halls, Skating Rinks, and Bars

- These are breeding grounds for ungodliness, temptation, and vanity.
- Proverbs 4:14–15 "Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away."

3. Gambling and Gambling Halls

- Gambling is built on covetousness and greed, which the Bible condemns.
- 1 Timothy 6:9–10 "But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare... For the love of money is the root of all evil."
- Gambling enslaves people, destroys families, and turns hearts from God. Apostolics reject it completely.

4. Secular Music

- Music carries a spirit, and worldly music stirs lust, rebellion, and carnality.
- Ephesians 5:19 "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord."
- Apostolics fill their lives with music that glorifies Jesus, not the flesh.

5. Organized Sports

- The spirit of competition breeds pride, anger, and idolatry.
- Colossians 3:2 "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."
- Our passion belongs to Christ, not to games that glorify the flesh.
- 6. Television, Movies, and Streaming (HBO, Netflix, Disney+, etc.)
- The TV has become a pipeline of sin and uncleanness into homes.
- Psalm 119:37 "Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way."
- Instead of wasting hours before Hollywood, we spend time in prayer, the Word, and fellowship with God's people.
- 7. Phones, Social Media, and Ungodly Apps (TikTok, Instagram, etc.)
- These platforms are filled with vanity, lust, false teaching, and worldliness.
- 1 John 2:15–16 "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world... For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."
- Apostolics guard their time and souls from platforms that promote ungodliness, preferring prayer, fasting, and godly fellowship.

Scripture Foundation for Separation

- Romans 12:2 "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind."
- 2 Corinthians 6:17–18 "Come out from among them, and be ye separate."
- 1 Thessalonians 5:22 "Abstain from all appearance of evil."
- James 1:27 "Keep himself unspotted from the world."
- Ephesians 5:11 "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them"
- Colossians 3:5 "Mortify therefore your members... covetousness, which is idolatry."
- Hebrews 12:14 "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."
- Titus 2:12 "Denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world."

Active Apostolic Righteousness: Why We Separate from the World

Key Scripture

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

—Romans 12:2

Why We Separate: *Apostolic Convictions*

- 8. Why We Do Not Go to Dances
- Dancing in the world is tied to lust, sensuality, and fleshly desires. From Bible times until now, ungodly dancing has always stirred sin (see Exodus 32:19 Israel's idolatry was accompanied by dancing around the golden calf).
- The movements of worldly dance are designed to excite carnal passion, not glorify God.
- Galatians 5:16 says, "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh." Worldly dancing feeds the flesh, not the Spirit.
- 9. Why Our Youth Do Not Attend School Dances (Prom, Homecoming, etc.)

- School dances are filled with worldly music, immodest dress, and unholy atmosphere. They normalize sin and tempt youth to compromise holiness.
- 1 Corinthians 15:33 warns: "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners." Even if a young person "doesn't dance," the spirit of the event is not clean.
- Apostolic youth are called to be different. Romans 13:14 commands: "But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof." School dances are provision for the flesh, not the Spirit.
- Instead, we encourage youth to spend time in prayer, fellowship, church gatherings, and Godcentered activities that build their walk with Christ.

The Bigger Picture: Separation Protects Purity

Every place, activity, and influence we abstain from has one goal: to keep ourselves unspotted from the world (James 1:27).

• Theaters, dances, pool halls, bars, gambling, secular music, organized sports, TV, social media apps — all of these are designed by the world to pull hearts away from God.

- The Holy Ghost in us calls us to live a higher life not one of compromise, but one of consecration.
- We separate because we love Jesus more than pleasure. We abstain because we would rather be full of the Spirit than full of the world.

Scriptures to Guide Our Youth

- Psalm 119:9 "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word."
- Ecclesiastes 12:1 "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."
- 2 Timothy 2:22 "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart."
- Philippians 4:8 "Whatsoever things are pure... thinkbut a call to active righteousness by revelation and love.

Active Apostolic Righteousness: Holiness in Appearance

Key Scripture

"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."
—Hebrews 12:14

Gender Distinction in Dress

- Deuteronomy 22:5 "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God."
- Pants are a garment designed for men, and it is an abomination for women to wear them or any male apparel, the clear God-ordained distinction between male and female is blurred.
- Apostolic women wear modest dresses or skirts that extend to the calf or longer, without slits, showing modesty and godly femininity.
- Men are called to wear clothing that reflects masculinity, avoiding effeminate or worldly trends.

Hair:

God's Natural Covering and Distinction

- 1 Corinthians 11:14–15 "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering."
- Women:
- Do not cut or trim their hair it is their covering and glory before God.
- They do not dye their hair unnatural colors, for this reflects vanity and pride rather than godly humility.
- Men:
- Should wear their hair short and manly, not following worldly or effeminate styles.
- They should not wear long hair or effeminate grooming.
- Beards are often associated with pride and rebellion in modern culture; we teach clean, godly grooming as a sign of separation.

Against Makeup, Jewelry, and Ornamentation

• 1 Timothy 2:8–9 — "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array."

- 1 Peter 3:3–4 "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."
- The wearing of makeup, lipstick, nail polish, and jewelry draws attention to the flesh and promotes vanity. Holiness teaches us to emphasize the inner beauty of a meek and quiet spirit, not outward paint or glitter.

Holiness by Revelation, Not Force

- We do not believe holiness standards should be imposed by force or harshness. Instead, they flow from teaching, preaching, and revelation of the Word of God.
- As saints grow in love for Jesus, the Holy Ghost convicts them to lay aside worldliness and adorn themselves in holiness.
- True holiness is not outward first it begins inwardly. But once it begins inwardly, it will manifest outwardly.

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Scriptures on Modesty and Separation

- Romans 12:1-2 Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God.
- 2 Corinthians 7:1 Cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
- Isaiah 3:16–24 The daughters of Zion judged for pride, vanity, and outward adornment.
- Titus 2:12 Denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, live soberly, righteously, and godly.

For the Youth and Next Generation

- Young women are taught to treasure their long, uncut hair and modest appearance as a sign of obedience and consecration.
- Young men are taught to wear godly, masculine haircuts, not following worldly pride in hair, dyes, or fashion trends.
- Both are taught that holiness is beautiful it sets them apart as lights in a dark and confused world.

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