

# *Warn the Unruly*

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1 Thessalonians 5:14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

UNRULY, a.

1. Disregarding restraint; licentious; disposed to violate laws; turbulent; ungovernable.
  2. Not submissive to rule; disregarding restraint; disposed to violate; turbulent; ungovernable; stubborn.
  3. To walk disorderly; to break rank; refuse to remain at their station; to try to occupy someone else's post; to habitually be in opposition.
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- I. No one who is unruly will admit to being unruly.
    - A. Part of the reason they are unruly is that they are so sure that they are right about everything.
    - B. They are so sure that they are superior in their knowledge, understanding, and experience that they look at everyone else as ignorant and inferior to them.
    - C. Pride is always a big factor in why a person will refuse to be restrained, or governed, or remain in their god-ordained station in life.
    - D. Pride and rebellion go together and so an unruly person is a rebellious person.
    - E. An unruly person is a disorderly person.
      1. They will not maintain order in their life.
      2. They are always changing and adapting one new thing after another.
      3. They can never begin a work and stick with it for long because it becomes a burden and they cannot abide any kind of restraint or boundaries on their desires.
    - F. An unruly person dislikes order and constancy and steadfastness.
      1. They like change and something new and different all the time.
      2. They generally care nothing for the old ways and things, but delight in what is new, or unknown to them.
  - II. So an unruly person is a problem for everyone else, no matter where he is found.
    - A. At work, an unruly person is a hindrance and a frustration for everyone.
      1. He is constantly causing strife, hindering the work, and stirring up trouble.
      2. He is a detriment to the employer and to the job they are trying to do, and everyone would be better off without him.
    - B. At home an unruly child is a problem that must be dealt with.
    - C. If that unruly child is not stopped and brought under control he will eventually destroy himself and cause the rest of the family untold grief and sorrow.
      1. The Bible is replete with instructions and examples of how to deal with an unruly child.
      2. However, the problem is that many times he has unruly parents who will not listen to the counsel of God, or his Word, or anyone who would point him in that direction.
      3. The unruly child is over-disciplined in anger and frustration, or he is not disciplined at all.

4. Lying, rebellion, disrespect, and disobedience cannot be tolerated, or the child will grow up to be a lost and miserable soul.
  5. The parent who is too lazy, ignorant, selfish, or foolish to discipline their children will pay for it in grief of heart and shame down the road as the children grow up.
- D. An unruly wife is the undoing of the entire family.
1. In this feministic age of ungodliness it is absolutely forbidden to touch this idol, but I am going to right now.
  2. The wife is to be in submission to her husband. (Ephesians 5:22; Colossians 3:18; and throughout the Bible this divine order is laid out clearly)
  3. This means she is not to oppose her husband; she may disagree, but if she is not unruly she will wait until they are alone to talk about it and not be running her mouth and railing against her husband in front of the children and others.
  4. The wife is to reverence her husband:

**Ephesians 5:33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.**

5. This is a strong word and it means to be in awe of; to respect, esteem, venerate.
  6. If you are a wife and you fail to do this you are unruly, and I am warning you tonight that you better stop it or great harm is going to come because of it.
- E. An unruly husband is the disaster of a family.
1. If a man is unruly his wife will most likely be unruly, and so will his children.
  2. If a man thinks he is a king in all matters and will receive no counsel, consider no advice, no correction from anyone, then his example to his family will reproduce his character in them, but multiplied many times in its ugliness and ungodliness.

**2 Thessalonians 3:6-7 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you;**

- III. God is a God of order and his ways are orderly and consistent.
- A. When a person is truly born again God will begin to set things in order in that person's mind, heart, and life.
  - B. The work of sanctification will remove the unruly spirit that is in control of the unruly person; this is the basic issue that must be dealt with.
  - C. Being unruly is a spiritual issue and problem; there is an evil spirit at work in an unruly person, and they must be warned.

**Proverbs 25:28 He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.**

- D. This being true, an unruly spirit is an open door for all evil to enter into your life.

- IV. The church and its services and work must be conducted according to the order God has plainly set forth in his Word.

- A. Unruliness cannot be tolerated or it will destroy a church.
- B. In the services: allowing anyone and everyone to take the floor and give their two cents worth; that is confusion and an open door for the devil to create chaos.
  - 1. Visitors cannot be allowed to come in who are strangers, or of another kind of church and take the microphone and take over the service.
  - 2. This is disorderly conduct and the Scripture says:

1 Corinthians 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

- 3. There must be an order to the service.
- 4. It cannot simply be a free-wheeling, emotional, “let’s see what happens” free-for-all; that is disorder and confusion, and an open door for the devil.
- 5. All this calls for someone to be in charge of the services; otherwise it will dissolve into disorder, chaos, and ungodliness.

- C. Allowing women to teach and preach, or dominate the services is disorderly and forbidden by the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 14:34-35 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

- 1. This is God’s Word on this matter, and not some man’s opinion.
- 2. This is the wisdom of God given to us plainly to maintain order and avoid confusion and problems that will come when this is allowed – God said it.

2 Timothy 3:6-7 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

- 3. Why are women’s Bible studies such a big thing? And why are they always separate from the church and not under the watch and supervision of the pastor?
- 4. Women should be able to testify in church and give thanks or ask for prayer, or simply praise God for his goodness, but they should not be exhorting, teaching, admonishing, instructing, correcting, or informing the people when they speak.
- 5. This will destroy a church quickly, and a woman who does this is unruly and disorderly.
- 6. If a woman like this had a husband that was right he would stop her, but that is almost never the case; that is why she is unruly in the first place.
- 7. We have thousands of years of history that prove this basic rule of conduct in the house of God is right and thousands of years of examples of what happens when it is disregarded.

1 Timothy 2:11-14 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

- 8. Men and women are different creatures and those differences affect their vulnerability to lies and deceit.
  - a) Men can certainly be deceived, but women, by their very nature, are more easily deceived; this is the reason God has given these instructions about the church.

- D. The order of the service cannot be an open forum.
  - 1. There is no reverence in this kind of atmosphere and it is not a worship service in any sense of the word.
  - 2. Disorderly people prefer an open forum, because it allows everyone a chance to say something.
  - 3. But what happens is one or two always take the floor and take over the meeting and no one else gets to say anything.
  - 4. God has not ordered any kind of meeting like this and gave no instructions for it, so it is lawless and ends in unruly talk and attitudes and behavior.
  
- V. But the main thought in this matter is that each of us should look at ourselves honestly and recognize if we are unruly.
  - A. Admit it, and forsake it, and submit ourselves to God.
  - B. Submit ourselves to our place and our station at work, in the family, at church.
  - C. Learn to rule our own spirit and not let our pride, our estimation of ourselves, and our unruly tongue make us a problem for our family, our church, our fellow laborers, and our God.