

A group of people is shown from behind, walking at night. The person in the center-right is wearing a bright yellow hoodie, which stands out against the dark background. The text is overlaid in white, serif font.

**EVIL
COMPANIONSHIPS
CORRUPT GOOD
MORALS**

I Corinthians 15:33

I. “I started hanging-out with the wrong crowd!”

How many times have we heard people regretfully make this statement?

Then from this context the individuals started the habitual use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sexual immorality, and the practice of “evil” in general!

In a common figure of speech, “If I’ve heard that statement once, I’ve heard it a thousand times!”

Paul is talking about this in I Corinthians 15:33.

II. Let's consider his statement!

“Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners”-I Corinthians 15:33, KJV.

“Evil companionships corrupt good morals”-ASV.

“Bad company ruins good morals”-ESV.

“Evil company corrupts good habits”-NKJV.

A. The Greek word is “homilia.”

Of this word, Vines says: “a company, association, or intercourse with (see commune, No. 2), is translated “company” in I Cor. 15:33, R.V. (A. V., ‘communications’); the word is in the plural, ‘evil companies,’ i.e., associations”-Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words, Vol. I, pg. 214.

**Of this word (homilia), Thayer says,
“companionship, intercourse, communion:
I Cor. XV. 33”-Thayer’s Greek English Lexicon,
pg. 444.**

**“Bottom-line;” here in I Corinthians 15:33,
Paul is talking about social interaction with evil
people!**

**The end result of it is that it brings
“corruption” from the spiritual vantage point!**

**Applied, that means that good morals will be
changed into bad morals!**

III. Let's take a look at other pertinent biblical passages!

A. “Neither shall thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son.

For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly”

-Deuteronomy 7:3 & 4.

B. Look at what happened to Solomon when he disobeyed these instructions from God-I Kings 11:1-11.

1. His wives turned away his heart-v. 3.

2. His wives turned away his heart after other gods-v. 4

3. His heart was not perfect with the Lord his God-v.4

- 4. Solomon went after false gods-v. 5**
- 5. Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord-v. 6**
- 6. He built “worship places” for false gods-v. 7**
- 7. He burnt incense and sacrificed to the false gods of his wives-v. 8**
- 8. Solomon’s heart was turned away from the Lord God-v. 9**
- 9. The Lord was angry with Solomon-v. 9**
- 10. Solomon did not keep God’s commandment of not going after other gods-v. 10**
- 11. Solomon did not keep the covenant and statutes which God commanded him to keep-v. 11**
- 12. God took his kingdom from him-v. 11**

**EVIL COMPANIONS CORRUPTED SOLOMON
AND TURNED HIS HEART FROM GOD TO
FALSE GODS JUST AS GOD HAD WARNED IN
DEUTERONOMY 7:1-5.**

C. Look at what Paul says in Galatians 6:7 & 8.

*“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever
a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*

*For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap
corruption; but the that soweth to the Spirit shall of
the Spirit reap life everlasting.”*

HERE'S APPLICATION OF WHAT WE'VE STUDIED ABOUT SOLOMON: HE MOCKED GOD IN REGARD TO WHAT THE LORD HAD SAID ABOUT THE PRINCIPLE OF EVIL COMPANIONS CORRUPTING GOOD MORALS IN THE RECORD IN DEUTERONOMY 7:1-5.

AND-HIS MORALS WERE CORRUPTED TO THE POINT OF HIS HEART BEING TURNED AWAY FROM THE LORD AND SERVING FALSE GODS! THIS RESULTED IN GOD BEING ANGRY AGAINST SOLOMON, AND RENDING THE KINGDOM FROM HIM!

D. Sometimes corruption comes because evil is tolerated in churches.

“Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed to idols. And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.

Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he that searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works”-Revelation 2:20-23.

The evil sister who was tolerated in the church at Thyatira corrupted the morals of some of the brethren there!

EVIL COMPANIONSHIPS CORRUPT GOOD MORALS!

E. I want to make one very vital point from I Corinthians 15:33.

“Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.”

Homilia is the Greek word translated “communications” in the KJV.

The English word “homiletics” comes from this Greek word.

Preachers who have received formal training in preparation to preach have taken courses in homiletics.

Basically, homiletics is a course designed to teach a man how to effectively impart God's word to others.

Apparently, the KJV translators took the word "homilia" to have this meaning, and this is the reason they went with the translation of "communications" in I Corinthians 15:33.

"Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection from the dead"-I Corinthians 15:12.

This was the "homiletical teaching" that would bring the corruption of, "Let us eat and drink: for tomorrow we die"-I Corinthians 15:32.

A CHRISTIAN WHO CEASES BELIEVING IN THE RESURRECTION WILL ADOPT THE “PLAYBOY PHILOSOPHY” OF WINE, WOMEN, AND SONG!

CHRISTIANS TODAY MUST REALIZE THAT THE “HOMILY” OF “NO RESURRECTION” WILL CORRUPT GOOD MORALS!

“AND EVERY MAN THAT KEEPS ON HAVING THIS HOPE IN HIM, KEEPS ON PURIFYING HIMSELF, EVEN AS HE IS PURE”-I John 3:3.

Note: present tense verbs are emphasized in this translation!!

The hope in view is the hope of being like Christ when He comes-see I John 3:1 & 2.