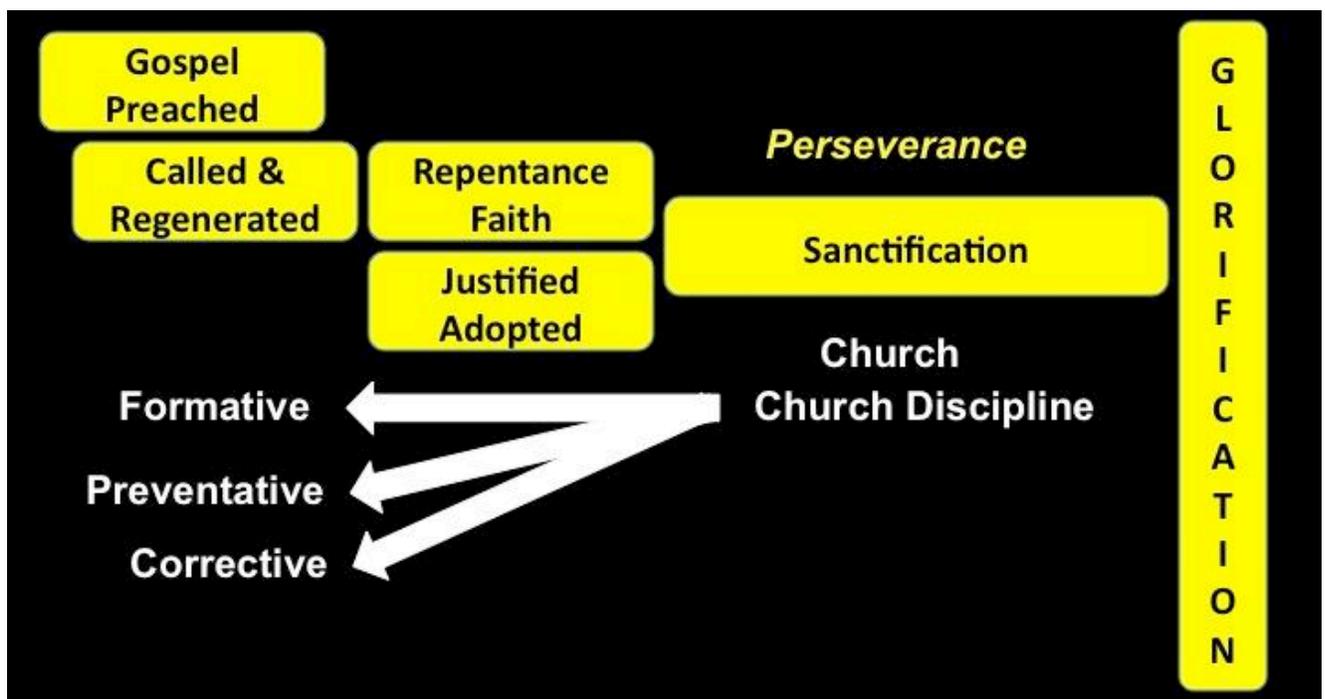


SIX MINUTES FROM STUART OLYOTT:

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CONTEXT:

➤ *From the lens of “salvation applied”*



True believers cannot be lost. Professing believers who don't go on will be lost. Church Discipline is one of God's ordained means to keep believers going on.

➤ *From the lens of Matthew 28:18-20*

The Great Commission consists of 3 parts: Make disciples, baptise disciples and teach disciples. Teach disciples involve instructing them, disciplining them, training them, nurturing them, counselling them. Hence when we are engaged in corrective church discipline, we are doing nothing more than fulfilling the Great Commission.

CHURCH DISCIPLINE: WHAT IT INVOLVES?

❖ **Admonition**

Matthew 18:15-17

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

1 Thessalonians 5:14, Hebrews 3:12-13

❖ **Suspension**

2 Thessalonians 3:6-15

To withdraw meaning not to keep company with the person, so that he may be ashamed. However, we are not to count him as an enemy but to admonish him as a brother.

❖ **Expulsion**

1 Corinthians 5

cf. Matthew 18:17

CHURCH DISCIPLINE: WHAT SINS? **Immorality, heresy and contumacy!**

CHURCH DISCIPLINE: WHAT SPIRIT?

Galatians 6:1 – meekness/gentleness, considering ourselves as equally vulnerable.

1 Corinthians 5:5 – aim at his/her restoration

Matthew 18:15-17 – patience, not in a hurry to expel

Jude 22-23 (cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:14) – make distinctions.

CHURCH DISCIPLINE: WHY RELUCTANT?

- (A) **Ignorance of the nature of the church, not realizing that the church is not just another human organisation with its own rules, able to change to fit the times. The church is God's institution and its rules are God's rules.**
- (B) **Ignorance of the nature of church membership. To join the church is to agree to the doctrines of the church and to submit to live according to its teachings and discipline.**
- (C) **Ignorance of the nature of God. Yes, God is love, but He is also holy. The church is to reflect His holiness as well as His love.**

CHURCH DISCIPLINE & SELF-MORTIFICATION

If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

Matthew 5:29-30

CHURCH DISCIPLINE & CHRISTIAN HUMILITY**1689 Baptist Confession of Faith Chapter 26**

Paragraph 12: As all believers are bound to join themselves to particular churches, when and where they have opportunity so to do; so all that are admitted unto the privileges of a church, are also under the censures and government thereof, according to the rule of Christ. (1 Thessalonians 5:14; 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14, 15)

Paragraph 13: No church members, upon any offence taken by them, having performed their duty required of them towards the person they are offended at, ought to disturb any church-order, or absent themselves from the assemblies of the church, or administration of any ordinances, upon the account of such offence at any of their fellow members, but to wait upon Christ, in the further proceeding of the church. (Matthew 18:15-17; Ephesians 4:2, 3)