

Where these two rivers join, the clear waters of the Brule flow alongside the muddy waters of the Iron for a short distance. Soon the waters are mixed into one stream. Now consider what happens—the clear waters of the Brule do not cleanse the waters of the Iron, but vice versa. The muddy waters of the Iron pollute the whole stream.

Likewise, entering into a close relationship with evil will corrupt a Christian. Partnering with an unsaved person in business or in marriage is contrary to God's will (2 Cor. 6:14-15). Remaining pure and getting the unbeliever to change is as difficult as keeping the waters of the Brule and Iron separate in the same channel.

Christian, shun the unequal yoke! Retain your separate position in every sphere of life. Never consider uniting with an unbeliever. How "can two walk together, unless they are agreed?" (Amos 3:3).

"Keep yourself pure" (1 Tim. 5:22). —MRD

*Lord, be in my thoughts, my words, my actions,
That I may be a river flowing clean;
Keep me from a partnership with evil,
So Christ the living water may be seen. —Hess*

If you walk with Christ, you can't run with the world.



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Two Rivers

Can two walk together, unless they are agreed? —Amos 3:3

The Brule River, which is on the border between Michigan and Wisconsin, flows for miles with clear, sparkling water. It is inhabited by an abundant population of speckled, rainbow, and brown trout. At one point the Iron River, muddy and thick with sediment of ore and clay, merges with the Brule.



Insights for Living Finding Timothy



In Philippians 2:19-24 Paul mentions 4 qualities of Timothy that are important in any pastor:

1. _____ sound, verse 20

(1 Timothy 1:2) "To Timothy, a true son in the faith: ..."

(Acts 16:1) "Then he came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek."

(2 Timothy 1:5) "when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also."

(1 Corinthians 4:17) "For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son

in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church."

(Amos 3:3) "Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?"

(1 Corinthians 1:12-13) "Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." {13} Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?"



2. _____, verses 20-21

(Mark 9:35) "... If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all."

3. _____, verse 22

(Philippians 2:22) "But ye know the proof of him," [KJV]

(Philippians 2:22) "But you know that Timothy has proved himself, ..." [translation]

(Acts 17:14) "Then immediately the brethren sent Paul away, to go to the sea; but both Silas and Timothy remained there."

(Acts 18:5) "When Silas and Timothy had come from Macedonia, Paul was compelled by the Spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ."

(Acts 19:22) "So he sent into Macedonia two of those who ministered to him, Timothy and Erastus, but he himself stayed in Asia for a time."

(1 Corinthians 16:10) "Now if Timothy comes, see that he may be with you without fear; for he does the work of the Lord, as I also do."

(Galatians 5:22-23) "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, {23} gentleness, self-control. ..."

(1 Timothy 3:1-7) "This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a



good work. {2} A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; {3} not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; {4} one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence {5} (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); {6} not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. {7} Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil."



4. _____, verse 22

(Romans 1:1) "Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, ..."

(John 15:16) "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, ..."

(Acts 13:1-3) "Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. {2} As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." {3} Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away."

(1 Timothy 4:14) "Do not neglect the gift that is in you, ..."

(2 Timothy 1:6) "Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands."

(1 Corinthians 9:11) "If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things?"

(2 Corinthians 8:9) "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich."

