

## The Gravity Of Sinning Against A Fellow Saint

### I. Introduction:

A. Recent events (Mallory Rodriguez [Terry] situation), has brought to light that sometimes so-called “Christians” do not realize the necessity of a good relationship with faithful brethren (**I John 4:7-21**).

1. We are taught of God to love one another (**I Thessalonians 4:9**).

2. That love is to be patterned after Jesus’ love (**John 15:12**).

B. God expects good relations between His children (**I Peter 3:8-9**).

1. Giving no offense, even in matters of liberties (**Romans 14:13; 21**).

2. Working hard to be unified (**Ephesians 4:1-3**).

### II. Body: **I Thessalonians 4:6-9**

A. If sin is committed against a fellow Christian, he or she is your first stop on the road to repentance (**Matthew 5:23-24**).

1. You must make this right to be forgiven (**Luke 17:1-4**).

2. Don’t expect the faithful to just forget about it over time (**III John 1:9-11**).

3. Recognize the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and faithful Christians (**Mark 3:31-35, John 1:12-13, John 20:17, Galatians 3:26-27, Galatians 4:7, Hebrews 2:9-12, and I John 3:1-2**).

4. Now what will our Father do to those whom mistreat His children (**Romans 12:17-21**)?

B. If you sin against a fellow saint you sin against the Lord (**I Corinthians 8:1-13**).

1. Consider... **Matthew 25:31-46**

2. Consider... **Acts 9:1-5**

3. Now consider... **Hebrews 10:26-31**

C. If you’re the brother or sister sinned against you, don’t be carnally vengeful (**Matthew 5:43-48** and **I Thessalonians 5:15**).

1. You can go to God on behalf of your brother or sister in Christ (**II Timothy 4:14-16**).

2. This does not mean we can ignore or unconditionally forgive a brother or sister that transgresses against us (**Matthew 18:15-17**).

3. Thus, though God will deal with them, you do not have to wish that upon them (**Acts 7:51-60**; cf. **Matthew 5:7** and **Luke 6:36**).

III. Conclusion: **I John 3:14-15**