

*The following is a quotation from a tenth-century Church document setting the punishment for three people who killed a church official:*

‘In the name of God,...we separate them from the Holy Mother Church,...that they may have no help of man nor any converse with Christians...Let no priest say mass for them, nor in sickness receive their confessions, nor, unless they repent, grant them...communion even on their deathbed.’

1. What is the name for the punishment described in the quotation?
2. Why did so many people fear this punishment?