

SERMON:

**Walking in Light:
Hating Deeds of Darkness**

Ephesians 5:3-14

EPHESIANS: SUMMARY STATEMENT

The reconciling wisdom of God has been gloriously displayed in Christ, calling us to walk by grace in the peace He has given us.

OUTLINE – FIRST HALF

1. **To the Praise of His Glory (Ephesians 1)** *The Wonder of Salvation*
 - Praising His Glory: The Wonder of Sovereign Redemption
 - Praising His Glory: The Wonder of Unmerited Riches
 - Let Us See Glory! A Prayer of Wonder
2. **You Were... But Now ... (Ephesians 2)** *The Unity of Salvation*
 - Dead Men Walking: Who You Were
 - Dead Men Walking: Who God Is
 - The Outcast Comes Home: Peace by the Blood
 - The Outcast Comes Home: A New Family and Temple
3. **The Manifold Wisdom of God (Ephesians 3)** *The Wisdom of Salvation*
 - A Wondrous Mystery: The Unity of the Gospel
 - A Wondrous Wisdom: The Gospel and the Church
 - Wondering at Wisdom: A Prayer of Wonder

OUTLINE – SECOND HALF

4. Walking in Christ (*Ephesians 4-6*)

- Walking in Wonder: Living in Light of Our Calling
- Walking in Unison: Living Our Calling in Community
- Walking in Distinction: Living in Contradiction to the World
- Walking in Love: Imitators of God
- Walking in Light: Hating Deeds of Darkness
- Walking in Wisdom: Rejoicing in Christ
- Walking in Submission: Testifying to the Worth of Christ
- Walking in Armor: Using What God Has Provided

THEME 3 OF EPHESIANS: WALKING

1. Theology

- Ephesians 2:1-2 – As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to *walk*
- Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance that we should *walk* in them

2. Application

- Ephesians 4:1 – I urge you to *walk* in a manner worthy of your calling
- Ephesians 4:17 – You must no longer *walk* as the Gentiles do
- Ephesians 5:2 – *Walk* in love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us
- Ephesians 5:8 – *Walk* as children of light.

EPHESIANS 5:3-14

³But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. ⁴Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. ⁵For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

EPHESIANS 5:3-14

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷Therefore do not be partners with them.

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰and find out what pleases the Lord.

EPHESIANS 5:3-14

¹¹Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. ¹⁴This is why it is said: “Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Proposition: If we are to walk in a manner worthy of our calling we must turn away from the darkness and embrace the light of Christ. We must refuse to be captured by the desires of this world and instead confess our sins to God and to each other.

- A. A Prohibition: Wallowing in Deeds of Darkness**
- B. An Exhortation: Walking in the Fruit of Light**
- C. A Transformation: Waking in Christ**

A PROHIBITION: WALLING IN DEEDS OF DARKNESS

1. Some things are completely incompatible with our salvation

EPHESIANS 5:3-7

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them.

EPHESIANS 5:3 (NIV84)

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.

EPHESIANS 5:3 (ESV)

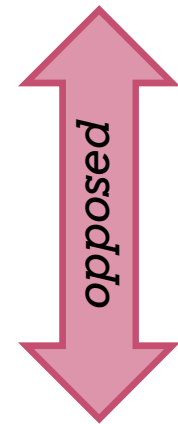
But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.

EPHESIANS 3:14-15

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

EPHESIANS 5:3 (ESV)

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.



EPHESIANS 4:1

*As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to walk in a manner **worthy of the calling you have received.***



EPHESIANS 5:3

*But among you **there must not be even a hint** of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, **because these are improper for God's holy people.***

no acceptable level

A PROHIBITION: WALLowing IN DEEDS OF DARKNESS

1. Some things are completely incompatible with our salvation
 - A. Sexual Immorality

EPHESIANS 5:3

porneia – “prostitution”

*But among you there must not be even a hint of **sexual immorality**, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.*

Illicit sexual activity outside of marriage is contradictory to salvation because ultimately it is a declaration that you desire the temporal, corrupted joys of earth more than the blessings of heaven

EPHESIANS 1:3

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

EPHESIANS 5:3

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.



A PROHIBITION: WALLowing IN DEEDS OF DARKNESS

1. Some things are completely incompatible with our salvation
 - A. Sexual Immorality
 - B. Uncleanness/Impurity

EPHESIANS 5:3

akatharsia – “uncleanness” (corrupted)

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.

PHILIPPIANS 4:8-9

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me---practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

EPHESIANS 5:3

akatharsia – “uncleanness” (corrupted)

*But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or **of any kind** of **impurity**, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.*

Pursuing things that are untrue, dishonorable, unjust, unlovely, uncommendable, inferior, unpraiseworthy,

Pursuing corruption is contradictory to salvation because ultimately it is a declaration that you desire the temporal, corrupted joys of earth more than the blessings of heaven

EPHESIANS 1:3

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

EPHESIANS 5:3

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.



A PROHIBITION: WALLowing IN DEEDS OF DARKNESS

1. Some things are completely incompatible with our salvation
 - A. Sexual Immorality
 - B. Uncleanness/Impurity
 - C. Greed (Idolatry)

EPHESIANS 5:3

pleonexia – “more having”

*But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of **greed**, because these are improper for God’s holy people.*

EPHESIANS 5:5

*For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—**such a man is an idolater**—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.*

EPHESIANS 5:3

pleonexia – “more having”

*But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of **greed**, because these are improper for God’s holy people.*

Pursuing and desiring things here is contradictory to salvation because ultimately it is a declaration that you desire the temporal, corrupted joys of earth more than the blessings of heaven

EPHESIANS 1:3

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

EPHESIANS 5:3

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.



I TIMOTHY 6:9-10, 17-19

But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. ... As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

LUKE 12:32-34

"Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

A PROHIBITION: WALLowing IN DEEDS OF DARKNESS

1. Some things are completely incompatible with our salvation
 - A. Sexual Immorality
 - B. Uncleanness/Impurity
 - C. Greed (Idolatry)
2. Even making light of these things is incompatible with our salvation

EPHESIANS 5:4


impurity and immorality not only in actions but in words

*Nor should there be **obscenity**, **foolish talk** or **coarse joking**, which are out of place, but rather **thanksgiving**.*

Not only our actions, but also our speech must be marked by salvation

EPHESIANS 1:3

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with **every spiritual blessing in Christ**.*

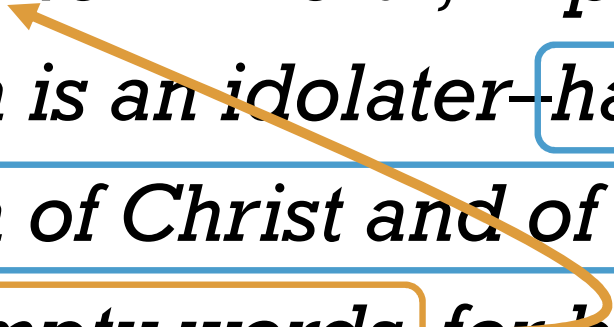


A PROHIBITION: WALLOWING IN DEEDS OF DARKNESS

1. Some things are completely incompatible with our salvation
 - A. Sexual Immorality
 - B. Uncleanness/Impurity
 - C. Greed (Idolatry)
2. Even making light of these things is incompatible with our salvation
3. Those who wallow in such things will face judgment

EPHESIANS 5:5-7

For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them.



I CORINTHIANS 6:9-11

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

KIDS' QUESTION:

DOES GOD THINK LIGHTLY OF SIN?

No, God is going to destroy sinners.

AN EXHORTATION: WALKING IN THE FRUIT OF LIGHT

1. You don't belong to the darkness anymore

EPHESIANS 5:8

For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

AN EXHORTATION: WALKING IN THE FRUIT OF LIGHT

1. You don't belong to the darkness anymore
2. Your life must reflect who you are

EPHESIANS 5:8-9

For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)

AN EXHORTATION: WALKING IN THE FRUIT OF LIGHT

1. You don't belong to the darkness anymore
2. Your life must reflect who you are
3. Your desire must be toward Christ

EPHESIANS 5:8-10

*For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and **find out** what pleases the Lord.*

consider, or evaluate, or approve

↳ If we are God's children, we must be aligning our desires with God's desires

A TRANSFORMATION: WAKING IN CHRIST

1. Light is the antidote to darkness

EPHESIANS 5:11-14

Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Light chases away darkness

A TRANSFORMATION: WAKING IN CHRIST

1. Light is the antidote to darkness
2. Light comes through new life in Christ

EPHESIANS 5:11-14

Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: “Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Christ's resurrection, worked in us, is the light that chases away the darkness

II CORINTHIANS 4:3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

JOHN 8:12

*Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the **light** of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

A TRANSFORMATION: WAKING IN CHRIST

1. Light is the antidote to darkness
2. Light comes through new life in Christ
3. We must keep coming to the Light

EPHESIANS 5:11-14

Great, Paul, you want us not to sin... but how?

Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: “Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

We need to keep coming to Christ to cleanse us from sin; we must confess our sins.

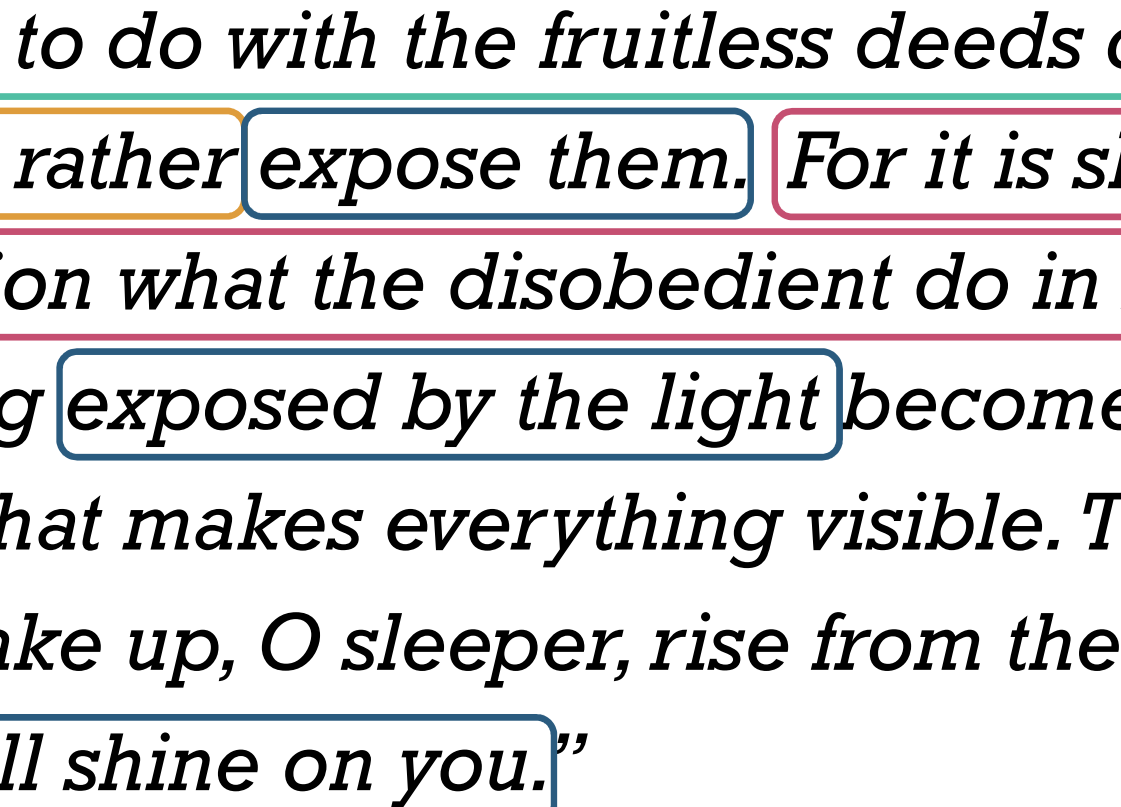
I JOHN 1:5-10

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

EPHESIANS 5:11-14

Great, Paul, you want us not to sin... but how?

Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."



We need to keep coming to Christ to cleanse us from sin; we must confess our sins.

KIDS' QUESTION:

SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH SIN?

We must turn away from sin and
bring it to the light of Christ.