

NOON BIBLE STUDY: EPHESIANS 5

EPHESIANS 5:1-2 - SUMMARY STATEMENT OF "LIVING THE NEW WAY" = BE IMITATORS OF GOD AS BELOVED CHILDREN, WALK IN LOVE, JUST AS CHRIST HAS LOVED YOU.

- IMITATORS OF GOD = DO THE SAME THING, MODEL
- "YOU LOOK JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER", "YOU ACT JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER", ETC.

EPHESIANS 5:3-6 - IMPROPER BEHAVIOR FOR SAINTS/HOLY ONES AND CHILDREN

IMMORALITY - THIS GENERAL TERM (GK. PORNEIA) COVERS ALL SEXUAL SINS, INCLUDING ADULTERY, FORNICATION, HOMOSEXUALITY, ETC.

IMPURITY - THE QUALITY OR STATE OF BEING IMPURE. AN UNWANTED SUBSTANCE THAT IS FOUND IN SOMETHING ELSE AND THAT PREVENTS IT FROM BEING PURE

GREED - IS A JEALOUS LONGING FOR WHAT OTHERS POSSESS

NOT NAMED AMONG YOU

NO FILTHINESS - OBSCENE. DISGUSTING TO THE SENSES. VERY OFFENSIVE IN USUALLY A SHOCKING WAY

NO SILLY TALK - FOOLISH TALKING,

NO COARSE JESTING - RUDE (COARSE) SOMETHING SAID OR DONE TO CAUSE LAUGHTER

NOT FITTING

RATHER = GIVING OF THANKS

SERIOUSNESS OF THIS: "NO IMMORAL OR IMPURE PERSON, OR COVETOUS MAN (WHO IS AN IDOLATER) HAS AN INHERITANCE IN THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST AND GOD.

V. 6 - "DON'T LET ANYONE DECEIVE YOU" THIS MUST RAISE OUR AWARENESS THAT THERE IS A POTENTIAL FOR DECEPTION ON THIS ISSUE.

WITHIN THE CHURCH: HOLINESS, LIFESTYLE, "WALK" DOESN'T MATTER, "GOD LOVES US" ETC

- DECEPTION IS EFFECTIVE WHEN IT IS CLOSE TO THE TRUTH/ORIGINAL
- "SONS OF DISOBEDIENCE" VS. "BELOVED CHILDREN" OF 5:1

EPHESIANS 5:7-17 - AWAKE & WALKING IN THE LIGHT

PARTAKERS: TO TAKE PART IN OR EXPERIENCE SOMETHING ALONG WITH OTHERS (MERRIAM-WEBSTER'S)

V. 11 — Q - *WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE IN YOUR LIFE?*

V. 12 - SERIOUSNESS

EPHESIANS 5:18-21 - MORE ON NEW WAY OF LIVING

V. 18 - DON'T GET DRUNK → BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

V. 19 - KEEP YOUR MIND AND HEART FOCUSED ON GOD BY TALKING/SINGING PRAISE

V. 20 - GIVE THANKS FOR ALL THINGS

EPHESIANS 5:22-6:9 - NEW WAY IN RELATIONSHIPS

EPHESIANS 5:22-33 - NEW WAY TO BE HUSBAND & WIFE

OLD WAY

NEW WAY

EPHESIANS 6:1-4 - NEW WAY TO BE A CHILD & PARENT

OLD WAY

NEW WAY

EPHESIANS 6:5-9 - NEW WAY TO WORK

OLD WAY

NEW WAY

"IT IS ESTIMATED THAT SLAVES (OR BONDSERVANTS) COMPOSED ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE POPULATION OF A CITY LIKE EPHEBUS. THEY WERE CONSIDERED AN INTEGRAL PART OF A FAMILY, SO PAUL'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR BONDSERVANTS WERE A NATURAL PART OF HIS DEALING WITH FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS. IN BOTH GREEK AND ROMAN CULTURE, BONDSERVANTS HAD LIMITED RIGHTS AND WERE SUBJECT TO EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE. PAUL DOES NOT CONDONE THE EXISTING SYSTEM OF SERVITUDE BUT INSTEAD PROVIDES INSTRUCTIONS TO BELIEVING MASTERS AND BONDSERVANTS REGARDING THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO EACH OTHER IN THE LORD, AND HOW THIS SHOULD BE LIVED OUT WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THEIR SOCIAL AND LEGAL CULTURE. THE RESULT, AS IS OFTEN OBSERVED, IS THAT THIS KIND OF SERVITUDE SLOWLY DIED OUT IN ANTIQUITY THROUGH THE INFLUENCE OF CHRISTIANITY" (ESV STUDY BIBLE EPH 6:5)". WE CAN APPLY THESE PRINCIPLES TO OUR WORK/AUTHORITY RELATIONSHIPS IN OUR CULTURAL CONTEXT.

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- WE SHOULD HOLD THESE CHARACTERISTICS UP TO OURSELVES LIKE A MIRROR TO ASSESS HOW FIRMLY WE ARE EMBRACING THE NEW WAY. OUR TEMPTATION WILL BE TO HOLD THIS MIRROR UP TO OUR SPOUSE, PARENTS, CHILDREN, EMPLOYER ETC AND THUS EXCUSE OURSELVES FROM LIVING THE NEW WAY BASED ON HOW WELL THEY ARE LIVING THE NEW WAY. THAT IS NOT WHAT CHRISTIANITY IS ALL ABOUT.
 - REMEMBER OUR MOTIVATION IS BASED ON EPHESIANS 2:1-10