BEING CAREFUL IN TREACHEROUS TIMES

EPHESIANS 5:2-18

August 26, 2020
THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING AN IMITATOR OF GOD

Ephesians 5:1 (NIV) (1) Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children

LIVE A LIFE OF LOVE
BEING CAREFUL IN TREACHEROUS TIMES

- **SAY YES TO LOVE AND NO TO IMMORALITY**
  Ephesians 5:2 (NIV) (2) and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

- **SAY NO TO SEXUAL IMMORALITY, IMPURITY, & GREED**
  Ephesians 5:3 (NIV) (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.
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- **SAY NO TO OBSCENITY, FOOLISH TALK, COARSE JESTING**
- **SAY YES TO A LIFE OF THANKSGIVING**

Ephesians 5:4 (NIV) (4) Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.
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- **NO IMMORAL, IMPURE, GREEDY PERSON (IDOLATOR) HAS INHERITANCE IN THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST AND OF GOD**

Ephesians 5:5 (NIV) (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.
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- **SAY YES TO A LIFE OF LIGHT**
- **SAY NO TO THE DEEDS OF DARKNESS**

Ephesians 5:6-8 (NIV) (6) Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. (7) Therefore do not be partners with them. (8) For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light

- **LIGHT’S AFFECT SEEN IN: GOODNESS, RIGHTEOUSNESS, TRUTH**

Ephesians 5:9 (NIV) (9) (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)
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- **WE MUST FIND OUT WHAT PLEASES GOD**
  Ephesians 5:10 (NIV) (10) and find out what pleases the Lord.

- **SAY NO TO THE DEEDS OF DARKNESS**
  Ephesians 5:11 (NIV) (11) Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.
BEING CAREFUL IN TREACHEROUS TIMES

- **SAY NO TO THE DISOBEDIENT DARKNESS**
- **SAY YES TO LIGHTING THE DARKNESS**

Ephesians 5:12-14 (NIV) (12) For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. (13) But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, (14) 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."
BEING CAREFUL IN TREACHEROUS TIMES

- **BE CAREFUL HOW YOU LIVE**
  Ephesians 5:15 (NIV) (15) Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise,

- **MAKE THE MOST OF OPPORTUNITIES – BECAUSE THESE ARE EVIL DAYS**
  Ephesians 5:16 (NIV) (16) making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

- **DON’T BE FOOLISH BUT UNDERSTAND WHAT GOD WANTS AND DESIRES**
  Ephesians 5:17 (NIV) (17) Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.
BEING CAREFUL IN TREACHEROUS TIMES

BE CAREFUL HOW YOU LIVE – LIVE AS WISE:

- CAREFULNESS GOES WITH WISDOM
- CAREFULNESS GOES WITH MAKING THE MOST of OPPORTUNITIES
- CAREFULNESS GOES WITH THESE EVIL DAYS WE ARE LIVING IN
- CAREFULNESS GOES WITH UNDERSTANDING WHAT GOD HAS FOR US & WANTS FROM US
BEING CAREFUL IN TREACHEROUS TIMES

- CAREFULNESS GOES WITH WHAT FILLS & CONSUMES US
- BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT (NOT spirits)

Ephesians 5:18-20 (NIV)

(18) Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.
(19) Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord,
(20) always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
BEING CAREFUL IN TREACHEROUS TIMES

AS WE ARE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD -- HE WILL INFLUENCE EVERY PART OF OUR LIVES – IT WILL COME OUT IN WHAT WE SPEAK -- AND THE SONG WE SING

- LET THE SPIRIT FILL YOU AND CHANGE YOU

- CHANGING THOUGHTS, ACTIONS, WORDS, & ATTITUDES