

Ephesians 5:6-14

Ephesians 5: 6 – “Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.”

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| 3367 [e] | 4771 [e] | 538 [e] | 2756 [e] | 3056 [e] | 1223 [e] | 3778 [e] | 1063 [e] | 2064 [e] | 3588 [e] |
| Mēdeis | hymas | apatatō | kenois | logois | dia | tauta | gar | erchetai | hē |
| 6 Μηδεὶς | ὑμᾶς | ἀπατάτω | κενοῖς | λόγοις | , διὰ | ταῦτα | γὰρ | ἔρχεται | ἡ |
| No one | you | let deceive | with empty | words | because of | these things | for | comes | the |
| Adj-NMS | PPro-A2P | V-PMA-3S | Adj-DMP | N-DMP | Prep | DPro-ANP | Conj | V-PIM/P-3S | Art-NFS |

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| 3709 [e] | 3588 [e] | 2316 [e] | 1909 [e] | 3588 [e] | 5207 [e] | 3588 [e] | 543 [e] |
| orgē | tou | Theou | epi | tous | huious | tēs | apeitheias |
| ὀργὴ | τοῦ | Θεοῦ | ἐπὶ | τοὺς | υἰοὺς | τῆς | ἀπειθείας |
| wrath | - | of God | upon | the | sons | - | of disobedience |
| N-NFS | Art-GMS | N-GMS | Prep | Art-AMP | N-AMP | Art-GFS | N-GFS |

1. “empty words” are concepts presented by a false reality which is in rebellion to God and is in the cosmos actively deconstructing the institutions God has established for the well-being of mankind. These “empty words” include:
 - a. False philosophies (which originate from idolatry) void of Christ and the Word of God
 - b. Progressive Christianity that adjusts the Truth and the Word of God to fit their social concepts and cultural standards originated in idolatry.
 - c. “empty words” will sound logical and rational to a corrupt society and to an immature believer who mind is not renewed to the Word of God
2. The “wrath of God” comes to the cosmos because of those who worship idols (or, those who follow false philosophies, empty words and deconstructed realities)
3. “these things” or *tauta*, refers to the deeds mentioned in 5:4-5 which are the things done by idolaters, not the “empty words” that give room for the rebellious deeds that are mentioned:
 - a. filthiness
 - b. foolish talk
 - c. crude joking
 - d. sexually immoral
 - e. impure
 - f. covetous
4. “comes the wrath of God”
 - a. “comes” – *erchetai* – is present tense which means it is already active.
 - i. As in Romans 1:18, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.” Where “is revealed” *apokalyptetai* is a verb in the present tense.
 - ii. This “wrath” (*orge*) will continue until it is ultimately poured out as in Revelation 6:17 and 11:18

Ephesians 5: 7 – “Therefore do not become partners with them;

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| 3361 [e] | 3767 [e] | 1096 [e] | 4830 [e] | 846 [e] |
| mē | oun | ginesthe | symmetochoi | autōn |
| 7 μὴ | οὖν | γίνεσθε | συμμέτοχοι | αὐτῶν . |
| Not | therefore | be | partakers | with them |
| Adv | Conj | V-PMM/P-2P | Adj-NMP | PPro-GM3P |

1. A short admonition in 5:7 that completes Paul's five verses of thoughts on this subject of sexual impurity that began in 5:3
2. "partakers" or "partners" is *symmetochoi* which was the same word used in 3:6 were Paul victoriously proclaimed that because of Jesus Christ the Gentiles were now "partners" with the Jews in being God's chosen people:

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| 1510 [e] | 3588 [e] | 1484 [e] | 4789 [e] | 2532 [e] | 4954 [e] | 2532 [e] | 4830 [e] | 3588 [e] |
| einai | ta | ethnē | synklēronoma | kai | syssōma | kai | symmetocha | tēs |
| 6 εἶναι | τὰ | ἔθνη | συνκληρονόμα | , καὶ | σύσσωμα | , καὶ | συμμέτοχα | τῆς |
| are | the | Gentiles | joint-heirs | and | a joint-body | and | joint-partakers | of the |
| V-PNA | Art-ANP | N-ANP | Adj-ANP | Conj | Adj-ANP | Conj | Adj-ANP | Art-GFS |

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| 1860 [e] | 1722 [e] | 5547 [e] | 2424 [e] | 1223 [e] | 3588 [e] | 2098 [e] |
| epangelias | en | Christō | Iēsou | dia | tou | euangeliou |
| ἐπαγγελίας | ἐν | Χριστῷ | Ἰησοῦ | , διὰ | τοῦ | εὐαγγελίου |
| promise | in | Christ | Jesus | through | the | gospel |
| N-GFS | Prep | N-DMS | N-DMS | Prep | Art-GNS | N-GNS |

3. Do not THINK like they think and do not ACT like they act. Think and act like Christ.

Ephesians 5: 8 – “For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light”

1. Just as described in:
 - a. Ephesians 2:1-3 –
 - b. Ephesians 3:17-24 –
2. “darkness” – at one time these believers not only lived in darkness and did darkness, but they “were darkness”. This was their natural state.
3. “light in the Lord” is their new condition
 - a. They are “light in the Lord”
 - b. They now need to manifest that light with understanding, thoughts, actions and life style.
 - c. It is possible to be light in this dark age, but it is a process that involves learning and maturing after having been brought into the kingdom of God by faith in Jesus.

Ephesians 5: 9 – “(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true),”

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| 3588 [e] | 1063 [e] | 2590 [e] | 3588 [e] | 5457 [e] | 1722 [e] | 3956 [e] | 19 [e] | 2532 [e] |
| ho | gar | karpos | tou | phōtos | en | pasē | agathōsynē | kai |
| 9 ὁ | γὰρ | καρπὸς | τοῦ | φωτὸς | ἐν | πάσῃ | ἀγαθωσύνη | καὶ |
| - | for | the fruit | of the | light [is] | in | all | goodness | and |
| Art-NMS | Conj | N-NMS | Art-GNS | N-GNS | Prep | Adj-DFS | N-DFS | Conj |

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| 1343 [e] | 2532 [e] | 225 [e] | |
| dikaiosynē | kai | alētheia | |
| δικαιοσύνη | καὶ | ἀληθεία | — |
| righteousness | and | truth | |
| N-DFS | Conj | N-DFS | |

- Paul adds a descriptive phrase to help identify what he meant by “you are light...walk as children of light”
- A child of the light will produce “the fruit of the light”.
 - Just as a child of darkness naturally produces “the things” (5:6) of darkness or “the fruitless deeds of darkness” (5:11)
 - So, the born again believer (child of the light) should naturally produce “the fruit of light” as they continue to mature with ever increasing glory
- This “light” is identified broadly with these terms which each have a large category used to identify and manifest them each. These are both specific terms used to identify a character trait, but also title headings for a much larger list of manifestations of each character trait:
 - All Goodness
 - Benevolence
 - “Goodness” – *agathosyne* – is moral excellence combined with a generous spirit
 - “intrinsic goodness, especially as a personal quality, with stress on the kindly (rather than the righteous) side of goodness
 - Opposite of malice in Eph. 4:31
 - All Righteousness
 - Fairness
 - “Righteousness” – *dikaiosyne* – “understood by Greeks as giving all their due”
 - Justice, justness, righteousness as practically (not positionally in Christ, but manifested as a fruit in life style).
 - Opposite of injustice in Eph. 4:25
 - All Truth
 - Integrity
 - “Truth” – *aletheia* – speaks of genuineness and honesty referring to both speaking the truth but also doing the truth
 - Not merely truth that is spoken, but
 - the truth of idea,
 - reality,

3. sincerity
4. truth in the moral sphere
5. divine truth revealed to man (natural revelation – Creation; special revelation – Scripture)
6. straightforwardness

iv. Opposite of falsehood in Eph. 4:25

Ephesians 5: 10 – “and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.”

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| 1381 [e] | 5101 [e] | 1510 [e] | 2101 [e] | 3588 [e] | 2962 [e] |
| dokimazontes | ti | estin | euareston | tō | Kyriō |
| 10 δοκιμάζοντες | τί | ἔστιν | εὐάρεστον | τῷ | Κυρίῳ . |
| discerning | what | is | well-pleasing | to the | Lord |
| V-PPA-NMP | IPro-NNS | V-PIA-3S | Adj-NNS | Art-DMS | N-DMS |

1. This picks up from 5:8
2. “discerning” – dokimazontes – literally means “finding out”. So, this verse says, “finding out what is well-pleasing to the Lord)
 - a. From dokimazo – meaning, “I put to the test”, “I prove”, “I examine”
 - b. It means “to test” and, so by implication “to approve”
 - c. It does not mean test to reject, but to test so as to distinguish the true from the false.
 - d. Again, the meaning as it is used:
 - i. I put to the test
 - ii. I prove
 - iii. I examine
 - iv. I distinguish by testing
 - v. I approve after testing
 - vi. I am fit
 - e. Used in:
 - i. Luke 12:56 – you know how to analyze the appearance of the sky, but not times
 - ii. Romans 1:28 – they did not approve God
 - iii. Romans 12:2 – so that you may prove
 - iv. Romans 14:22 – in what he approves
 - v. 1 Corinthians 3:13 – the fire will test the quality of every man’s work
 - vi. 1 Corinthians 11:28 – each man must examine himself
 - vii. Galatians 6:4 – each one must examine his own work
 - viii. Philippians 1:10 – that you may approve the things that are excellent
 - ix. 1 Thessalonians 2:4 (2x) – we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. 1 Thessalonians 5:21 – examine everything, hold on to the good
 - x. 1 Peter 1:7 – even though tested by fire
 - xi. 1 John 4:1 – test the spirits
3. This is repeated again in 5:17, which makes this one of Paul’s main challenges in these verses: “Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”

- a. “foolish” now is referring to “darkness” and the “deeds of darkness” the “thoughts of darkness”
- b. “wise” is “understanding what the will of the Lord is” and “discerning what is well-pleasing to the Lord.”

4.

Ephesians 5: 11 – “Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.”

Ephesians 5: 12 – “For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.”

Ephesians 5: 13 – “But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible,”

**Ephesians 5: 14 – “For anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,
“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”**

Ephesians 5: 15 – “Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,”

Ephesians 5: 16 – “Making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.”

Ephesians 5: 17 – “Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”

Ephesians 5: 18 – “And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,”

Ephesians 5: 19 – “Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,”

Ephesians 5: 20 – “Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,”

Ephesians 5: 21 – “Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.”