

December 1, 2024
Ephesians 5:1-7
“Beloved”

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

No nasty talk. No foolish talk, this word is from the lexical root of *moron* . . . No coarse jesting, do not make fun of or light of anyone. This includes vulgar, frivolous wit. They are as out of place as a skunk at a wedding.

Humor itself is not sin, but when used to tear down or destroy others it becomes blatant sin. The victim of your crime may be wounded and scarred for life.

Anything you put before your relationship with God is a form of idolatry.

Just saw a church sign that read, we are all God’s children. What deceptive doctrine this is. Only saved/born again people are God’s children and have an inheritance in the Kingdom Of Christ and of God, see **v 5**.

Take God’s view of sin seriously, He definitely does. Imitate God, not evildoers. Don’t partner with evil, see **I Corinthians 15:33**. You should not desire to seek *anything* more than you desire to seek God.

There are many who will tell you the Christian life is too demanding. The standards are too high. People must be allowed to live as they like. Do not be fooled by such deceivers. When someone is advocating for permissiveness, just walk away, stay with the Word of God and you will do well.

These deceivers, **v 6**, are Gnostics, they claim to have a special knowledge of the Word that you do not and they pawn it off on the unsuspecting to deceive them into being like the devil and not like God.

Application:

Beloved, we are not all God’s children. Those who have accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord/Boss of their lives are God’s children. All others have the devil as their father, see **John 8:44**. You will know them by their fruit, see **Matthew 7:16-20**. Beware of deceivers who come along with special knowledge that is new and exclusive to them as if they received it from God. The Scriptures are all we need to live a godly life through faith in Christ Jesus, see **II Timothy 3:12-17**. In Christ you are a child of God and numbered among the BELOVED.