December 8, 2024 Ephesians 5:5-14 "Reflectors"

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Vv 5-7, Stay away from the sins described in v 5 : immorality, impurity, and greed. Those who fall in this category have no part in the Kingdom Of God. These characteristics identify those who are lost in their sins and are headed for a devil's hell, see I Corinthians 6:9-11. A greedy person is an idolator, see Colossians 3:5. Anything you put before your relationship with God is a form of idolatry. The unregenerate display this kind of worthless fruit and they make themselves the object of God's wrath, see Colossians 3:6. Take God's view of sin seriously, He definitely does. Imitate God, not evildoers. Don't partner with evil, see I Corinthians 15:33.

V 11, Do not share in the barren deeds of darkness. The works are shunned, not the worker. Believers are in the world, just not of the world. Jesus met people where they were and loved them too much to leave them there, go, and do the same. Furthermore, expose their practices. Convince or reprove them by exposure, let the light of Jesus shine on them through you and thereby reveal the huge difference between a believer and a lost person, conviction will fall upon them. Reflectors.

V 12, This verse may well be applied to both believers and nonbelievers. It is possible for believers to act shamefully, see I Corinthians 5. This passage definitely speaks of the lost and may serve as a warning to immoral church members to reflect the One who saved them and not to reflect the ways of the world. "Walk as children of light" v 8.

Never allow wickedness to take hold in your life. Produce righteous fruit; darkness has no place in your life. In Christ we are "children of light." I Thessalonians 5:5. Reflectors.

The rhymathicl v 14 is probably from a primitive hymn loosely derived from Isaiah 60:1.

Vv 7-14, "No loose thread of thought is left dangling; all is perfectly woven together and comes to rest in this gospel call to the sinner." *R. C. H. Lenski*

Application:

Children of light are like a plant in a garden, naturally turning, leaning, and reaching for the light, which is God. Test to see what pleases God and what does not. As a child of light one desires only what is pleasing to the Lord. Examine your life, does your life reflect the character of God by evidence of being ever drawn closer to Him? Reflectors.