

Partners in Purity - Children of the Light

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Introduction

Text - Ephesians 5:1-14

Main Idea – These verses stand in stark contrast to the prevailing “spirit of our age.” And they were a similar contrast to that of ancient Ephesus. So Paul encourages a difference in attitude (toward others), in action (speech & associate) and in affection (what we deem valuable). Paul speaks not just of the things we ought not to do but of the things that are true of us...specifically...

I. We are God’s holy ones – v. 1 - 4 - Be imitators – holy

A. Our Calling – dearly loved children, God’s holy people/citizens

B. Our Conduct -

1. live a life of sacrificial compassion – just as Jesus has on their behalf

2. live a life of sexual cleanness – because of God’s plan for sexuality

3. live a life of spoken correctness – because God is the LORD of our word

II. We are God’s heirs – v. 5-7 - Don’t be idolaters – heaven

A. Our “future wealth” – inheritance in the kingdom of God

B. The “future warning” – wrath of God

III. We are God's light – v. 8 - 11 - Be investigators – honesty

A. What we are - Light in the LORD

B. What we produce – fruit of the light

C. What we do – “find out what pleases the LORD”

IV. We are God's examples v. 12 -14 - Be illustrations - holistic

– v. 14 (extract from 1st century baptismal hymn)

A. Baptism reminds us of our identification with Christ' life

B. Baptism renews our identification with the world Christ loves

Conclusions