

Ephesians: From Death to Life
Children of Light
Ephesians 5:8-14

The Age of Enlightenment was an intellectual and philosophical movement that dominated the world of ideas in Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries. The Enlightenment produced a secular humanism rejected absolute truths which required a God in favor of relativism that left truth to the individual. Having lost moral objectivity, it is ironic that the more “enlightened” society became, the more depraved it became. We now live in a culture that sees with eyes that have been darkened.

1. The gospel identified us as children of light.
2. The gospel instructs us to be children of light.
3. The gospel invites us to become children of light.

As Christians, we should not mind having the light reveal who we are because it will only verify the truthfulness of our identity. If we are afraid of the light, it is because we still love the darkness. To Paul the contrast is clear: we’re not darkness anymore, we’re light. We should live as children of light. The characteristic fruit of our lives—goodness, righteousness, and truth—will verify to us and everyone around us that we are walking in the light.

Reflection

Is there any way in which you are compromising with the “fruitless deeds of darkness,” rather than having nothing to do with them? Do you need to make some practical changes in your life or routine in order to better demonstrate your willingness to exhibit the fruits of the Spirit? Consider the relationship between sin, God’s wrath, and salvation in this passage. How do we escape the wrath of God? What virtues and practices from this passage should we be pursuing as people of light?