

## CHILDREN OF LIGHT

### EPHESIANS 5:8

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. We all have the same amount of time. (Eph. 5.15,16)
2. There are three ways that we are to spend our time.
  - a) **Ephesians 5.2:** Walking in love.
  - b) **Ephesians 5.8-10:** Walking as children of light.
  - c) **Ephesians 5.15:** Walking circumspectly.
3. Consider what it means to walk as children of light.

#### I. TWO IMPORTANCE PASSAGES

- A. Walking as children of light gives glory to God.
  1. **MATTHEW 5.15:** *"You are the light of the world."*
  2. **MATTHEW 5.16:** *"Let your light so shine before men..."*
  3. **MATTHEW 5.16:** *"...that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*
- B. Walking as children of light affects my influence.
  1. **PHILIPPIANS 2.15,16:** blameless and harmless.
  2. **PHILIPPIANS 2.16:** God is glorified. (cf. James 4.4)

#### II. TWO IMPORTANT POINTS

- A. The context of the book of Ephesians:
  1. Ephesians was written to the faithful. (Eph. 1.1)
  2. Ephesians was written about the church. (Eph. 1.22,23)
  3. Ephesians was written about grace. (Eph. 2.8)
- B. The context of Ephesians 5:
  1. I am taught to walk circumspectly. (Eph. 5.15)
  2. I am taught to use my time well. (Eph. 5.15)
- C. Two ways Christians walk as light. (Eph. 3.3-14)
  1. Walking as light involves never taking something wrong and turning it into something that is right. (vs. 3-7)
  2. Walking as light involves never trying to be like everyone else. (vs. 7-14)

**CONCLUSION:** Light and darkness. Which will you choose?

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*"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature"*  
-Mark 16.15

**January 11, 2026**

#### MEETING TIMES:

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM**  
**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM**  
**SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM**  
**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM**

## Lust of the Eyes

Job suffered through tremendous trials. His friends insisted that he was being punished by God because of his sins. However, Job repeatedly declared his innocence. In Job 31.1-12, Job maintained that he had not been guilty of the sins related to the heart. Specifically, Job said that *"if my heart has been enticed by a woman...that would be wickedness"* (Job 31.9-11). If we go back to verse one, Job makes a statement that every husband ought to make. **JOB 31.1:** *"I have made a covenant with my eyes; why then should I look upon another woman?"*

The apostle John warned that *"all that is in the world – lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father, but of the world"* (1 John 2.16). Lusting after another is a violation of God's will that is just as severe as if he were to actually commit the act of adultery (Matt. 5.28). In this same context, Jesus emphasizes the seriousness of the lust of the eyes by saying that *"if your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it far from you"* (Matt. 5.29).

While Jesus was not speaking literally, His statement underscores the urgency of controlling the lust of the eyes. Every one of us needs to make a covenant with their eyes to not look upon another lustfully.

CLP

## HOW TO OVERCOME SPIRITUAL LETHARGY

### Acts 18:25

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. **Romans 12.11:** We are to be on fire for the Lord.
2. What do you do when you feel spiritually lethargic?
3. There is one man in all of the Bible who is described as being "*fervent in spirit*." Learning from him can help us.

#### I. BREAKING DOWN THE TEXT

- A. **Acts 18.24:** "*Now a certain Jew named Apollos*"
  1. His place of birth. **Acts 18.24:** "*born in Alexandria*."
  2. His intelligence. **Acts 18.24:** "*eloquent*" and "*mighty*."
  3. His education. **Acts 18.25:** "*the way of the Lord*."
  4. His passion. **Acts 18.25:** "*being fervent in spirit*"
- B. The ministry of Apollos.
  1. His limitation. **Acts 18.25:** "*the baptism of John*."
  2. His correction. **Acts 18.26:** "*they took him aside*"
  3. His work in Corinth. (Acts 18.27,28)

#### II. LESSONS FROM THE TEXT

- A. Apollos loved to study his Bible.
  1. **Acts 18.24:** "*Apollos, born at Alexandria*"
  2. Alexandria was a university city.
  3. What was the focus of Apollos' studies? (Acts 18.25)
  4. We can overcome spiritual lethargy by spending more time with our Bible. (Ps. 1.1,2; John 6.68; 2 Tim. 2.15)
- B. Apollos loved to talk about Jesus.
  1. **Acts 18.25:** "*He spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord*." He was excited to share what he knew.
  2. The Lord is a reference to Jesus. (Eph. 4.4-6)
  3. We can overcome spiritual lethargy by learning to talk more about Jesus.
- C. Apollos was willing to make changes.
  1. **Acts 18.25:** "*though he knew only the baptism of John*"
  2. What is the baptism of John? (Mark 1.2-4)
  3. **Acts 18.26:** Aquila and Priscilla corrected him.
  4. We can overcome spiritual lethargy by being willing to accept correction. (James 3.17)

**CONCLUSION:** Are you "*fervent in spirit*?"

## Where are Your Fathers Now?

They say that you need to learn from the mistakes of others, because you cannot live long enough to make all the mistakes yourself. We can learn from the good examples of those who live by the scriptures (1 Cor. 11.1; Phil. 3.17). But we also learn from the mistakes of others. Of interest, scripture directs our attention not just to their mistakes but also to the consequences of their mistakes. The suffering and death of those before us serve as a cautionary tale.

The book of Zechariah begins with such a cautionary tale. The Jews had refused to listen to God through the prophets of the past (Jer. 44.4-6). Therefore, God sent them into Babylonian captivity and allowed Babylon to destroy Jerusalem. Their sentence was pronounced through Jeremiah. For seventy years, they would be enslaved by the Babylonians (2 Chr. 36.21).

After seventy years, the Jews were released from Babylonian captivity. They were in the process of rebuilding the temple and their beloved city. Upon their return, the very first thing that the prophet does is point their attention to their fathers by reminding them why God had punished them by the hand of the Babylonians. He tells them that "*the Lord has been very angry with your fathers*" (Zech. 1.2). He warns them, "*Do not be like your fathers*." He reminds them that "*they did not hear nor heed Me*" (Zech. 1.4). He then says this in verse 5: "*Your father, where are they?*" (Zech. 1.5). It is as if God is saying to this next generation of Jews, "Your fathers did not listen to Me, and look what happened to them."

The Bible repeatedly points us to the consequences of those who refused to listen to God. In 1 Corinthians 10, there are numerous examples of what happened to those who sinned (1 Cor. 10.6,11). Hebrews 3 makes reference to the Israelites who refused to listen to God and did not enter into the land of promise (Heb. 3.16-18). We are then warned, "*Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience*" (Heb. 4.11). King Asa died because "*in his disease he did not seek the LORD, but the physicians*" (2 Chr. 16.12,13).

Who in your life has made a mess of their lives because they refused to live by the scriptures? Who is struggling as a consequence of their bad decisions? Let the example of others serve as a cautionary tale to motivate you to listen to God. CLP