

EPH 5:7-14 SERMON TEXT

v.8 - "IN THE LORD" >> refers to your UNION WITH CHRIST. This signifies:
 1. new position; 2. new union 3. new hope 4. new identity 5. new security

- **Therefore...WALK** — 5x in Ephesians 4-6:
 Ephesians 4:1, 17; 5:1-2; **5:7-14**; 5:15
- ▶ Ephesians 4:1-16 - be **UNIFIED** in the Church (Singular/single-minded)
- ▶ Ephesians 4:17-32 - Be **HOLY** in the Church (Spotless)
- ▶ Ephesians 5:1-6 - Be **LOVING** in the Church (Self-less/self-denying)
- ▶ Ephesians 5:7-14 - BE **DISTINCT** from the World (**Separate**)
- ▶ Ephesians 5:15-6:9 - BE **SPIRIT-FILLED** in your relationships (Spirit-filled)

1. Do not participate with **evil doers** (7-10)

Eph. 5:7 **Therefore do not be partakers** with *them*; [*'sons of disobedience', v.6b*]

Eph. 5:8 for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light *in the Lord*; **walk** as children of Light [see box above for this pattern]

Eph. 5:9 (for the fruit of the Light consists in all **goodness and righteousness and truth**), [3-fold evidence of true conversion "In the Light"]

Eph. 5:10 trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. [summary mark of believer/In Light: want to "please God" (Rom 12.1-2; 2 Cor 5.9; Heb 13.21)]

2. Do not participate with **evil deeds** (11-14)

Eph. 5:11 **Do not participate** in the *unfruitful deeds of darkness*, but instead even **expose** them; to "expose" speaks of verbal rebuke, reproof, showing error, danger. cf. Matt 18.15; Lk 3.19; 1 Cor 14.24; 2 Tim 4.2; Titus 1.13

Eph. 5:12 for it is **disgraceful** even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. [*it is shameful to *talk* of the things they do!*]

Eph. 5:13 But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light.
 [all things are made clear when believers expose them] [all whom God the Spirit illumine become "Light" (=believers)]

Eph. 5:14 For this reason it says,
 "Awake, sleeper,
 And arise from the dead,
 And Christ will shine on you."

2 exhortations & 1 promise in v.14. V.14 was probably part of a hymn from the early church:

**A SUMMARY OF THE GOSPEL:

1. **awake**, sleeper – the sinner who is asleep in the darkness of sin exhortation!
2. **arise** from the dead – the summons to repent and turn from sin exhortation!
3. Christ **will shine** on you – THE GOOD news that salvation is come! gospel promise!

See a further explanation of this evangelistic call on the next page (below).

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A Call to Slumbering Souls

J. Lathrop

I. The character of those addressed.

1. If you allow yourself in the practice of known wickedness, your conscience is asleep.
2. If you live in the customary neglect of self-examination, you are in a state of slumber.
3. If you have never been in any degree affected with a sense of your guilt, and of your dependence on the mercy of God in Christ, you are among those who are asleep.
4. If you have no conflicts with sin and temptation, you are in a state of slumber.
5. The prevalence of a sensual and carnal disposition is a sign of spiritual death.
6. Stupidity under the warnings of God's word and providence, indicates such a state of soul as the Scripture compares to sleep.

II. Apply the call.

1. This awakening must suppose and imply a conviction of your sin, and a sense of your danger.
2. This awakening from sleep, and arising "from the dead," implies a repentance of sin and turning to God.
3. They who have awoken from their sleep and risen from the dead will experience the properties, and maintain the exercises of a holy and spiritual life.

III. The encouragement— "Christ shall give thee light," shall shine upon and enlighten thee.

1. This may be understood as a promise of pardon and eternal life on your repentance.
2. The words farther import God's gracious attention to awakened souls, when they frame their doings to turn to Him. The call is, Awake, arise from the dead, repair to the Saviour. Say not, "We are unable to discern the way." Christ will shine upon you and give you light. Say not, "We are unable to rise and walk." He will meet you with His grace. Arise, He calleth you. He will guide your steps.