

Light Shine Bright  
Ephesians 5:7-14

I. Intro

- A. Some tough weeks of conviction...I'm sure Paul will go easier on us today...
- B. You have a light, that light is from God, and it is the ONLY WAY TO DISPEL DARKNESS!
- C. There is just one way...Walk in LIGHT!

II. Text

- A. Verse 7-8
  - 1. Do not become partners with the sons of disobedience
  - 2. What you were is not what you are, act like it.
- B. Verse 9: The fruit of light: that which is good, right, and true
- C. Verse 10:
  - 1. This gives us a life of adventure!
  - 2. Discern what pleases the Lord
- D. Verse 11
  - 1. Unfruitful: arkapos: literal "no fruit"
  - 2. different from the Empty word from last week
- E. Verses 12-14
  - 1. The darkness cannot hide what is true from God.
  - 2. When something is exposed to light it becomes visible and then reflects light, becoming light
  - 3. Like the moon reflects the sun, the moon brings light as well, but not from its own

III. Point

- A. Our light is a reflection of His
  - 1. The source of LIGHT is God
  - 2. Creation:
    - a) Light manifested on day 1
    - b) [Gen 1:3-5 ESV] 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.
    - c) Light further defined on day 4
    - d) [Gen 1:3-5, 14-19 ESV] 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ... 14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, 15 and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. 16 And God made the two great lights--the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night--and the stars. 17 And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.
    - e) Light was created without our full understanding, and exists today as God intended.
    - f) Light has been an example of God's presence since then
  - 3. Examples:
    - a) Israel in the exodus: led through the wilderness by the fire, and the fire marked the presence of God in the Holy of Holies. EVIDENCE OF THE GLORY OF GOD
    - b) Moses and the burning bush: The bush was on fire, but not consumed. I believe that to be the Glory of God. EVIDENCE OF THE GLORY OF GOD

- c) The Mount of transfiguration: Jesus shone brightly from God's glory: EVIDENCE OF THE GLORY OF GOD
  - d) Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. EVIDENCE OF THE GLORY OF GOD!
- B. Our light is powerful because of Him
- 1. He is the one that is the source of power and strength, He is MIGHTY!
  - 2. His power and strength is a clear beacon to the entire world!
  - 3. And we are a reflection of that light and Glory.
  - 4. The Evidence of the Glory of God is seen in the reflection of His glory, might, power...but its source is not us, it is HIM.
  - 5. Theology for the day:
    - a) Omnipotence: ALL POWERFUL
    - b) If you can conceive of something more powerful than our God, you are not thinking big enough.
    - c) He is the source of power and strength, and has always been.
  - 6. His power is seen:
    - a) In creation
      - (1) Speaking the world into creation
      - (2) Holding creation all together
      - (3) In creating life
      - (4) In enjoying creation today
    - b) In calling
      - (1) He called, and chose Abram from Ur of the Chaldeas
      - (2) He called you to salvation and repentance
    - c) In correction
      - (1) He corrects us out of love
      - (2) His power is seen in His restraint
    - d) In conviction
      - (1) He convicts us when we miss the mark, or stray from the path
      - (2) He loves us too much not to
    - e) In comfort
      - (1) He is powerful to bring grace and comfort in time of need
      - (2) And we are always in need
    - f) In common everyday things
      - (1) Every moment is an opportunity to see the power of God at work
      - (2) He is Good, all the time!
- C. Our light is is at work today
- 1. The reflection of the Glory of God through the life of His followers has a lasting effect in our world today
  - 2. We can see God work through our lives as we declare truth and serve with gladness.
  - 3. Effective ministry is:
    - a) Powered by His presence
    - b) Pointing people to Christ
    - c) Entering their world and serving as the Lord has equipped
    - d) A demonstration of truth with kindness, we have to be uncompromising regarding TRUTH, while also being uncompromising in our KINDNESS.
  - 4. Ministry is getting our hands dirty, while we are also doing the real work of ministry...PRAYER
  - 5. We are blessed with the joy to reflect the LIGHT of the GOOD NEWS to the WORLD.
- IV. Close
- A. Lets close with 1 John 1:5-10, Apostle John teaching the same point, we read it a couple weeks ago.

B. [1Jo 1:5-10 ESV] 5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

[Eph 5:7-14 ESV] 7 Therefore do not become partners with them; 8 for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. 13 But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, 14 for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."