

(3) But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

(6) Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

(7) Therefore, do not become partners with them, for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of the light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.

(11) Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but, instead, expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says,

“Awake, O sleeper, and rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

(15) Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

(18) And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,

> addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,

> singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,

> giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

> submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Think on these things:

- 1) List the 6 things that “must not even be named among you” from vs. 3-4. These are **not** proper for the saints (believers in Christ’s Church), and are “out of place.”

The six things cited are: 1) sexual immorality; 2) impurity; 3) covetousness (driven by greed, but also idolatry, v. 5); 4) dirty talking (cursing); 5) foolish talk; and 6) crude jokes.

- 2) Should “Christians” guilty of sexual immorality or impurity be worried? Why or why not (v. 5)?

Yes, they should. “Be sure of this...has NO inheritance in Christ’s Kingdom.”

- 3) What further warning is given to us in v. 6 challenging thinking that sexual and coveting sins are “no big deal”? What truth awaits people doing these things?

Don’t let others deceive us with empty words (their ungodly opinions). God’s Wrath is being stored up for people such as these.

- 4) Recall in Chapter 4 we were told to put off our old selves and put on our new selves. How is this same action explained in 5:8?

Walk as children of the Light.

- 5) V. 7 commands Christians **not** to be partners with people who live disobediently to God, and v. 11 states, “take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness.” As we “walk as children of light” (v. 8), what does v. 11 say we should do about works of darkness? See also Matthew 5:13-16.

We are to “expose” deeds of darkness. Matthew – Light is synonymous with Good Works.

- 6) How are we to walk (i.e., live) in this life (v. 15)? Why (v. 16)?

How? **Carefully pay attention to how we are living, be wise, and make the best use of our time.**

Why? **Because the days are evil (everybody around us lives ungodly lives).**

- 7) Let’s now look at a series of positive and negative commands to do:

Positive (DO this)

Negative (DON’T do this)

v. 4 **Be thankful**

No filthy, crude or foolish speaking

v. 7

Don’t partner up with (befriend) the ungodly

v. 8 **Walk as children of light**

v. 10 **Discern what pleases God**

v. 11

Take no part in behaviors of darkness

v. 16 **Make the best use of your time**

v. 17 **Understand God’s will**

Don’t be foolish

v. 18 **Be filled with the Holy Spirit**

Don’t get drunk with wine (or alcohol)

v. 19 **Address Christians in spiritual expressions (honor God with music)**

v. 20 **Give thanks always -> for everything**

- 8) What reason is given in v. 21 for one Christian to “submit” to another Christian (yield to, defer to, obey, comply with)? Unlike the world’s system, Christians aren’t to compete and struggle to gain power and leadership positions in the Church. What should a Christian be focused on doing in the Church in order to become a leader? (See Mark 10:41-45 and Galatians 5:13-15; 6:2, 10).

Why? **We submit to one another because we revere (honor) Christ.**

Focus? **Focus on being a servant to everyone (serve one another, do good to everyone).**

People and situations I want to pray for this week: