

October 3rd – Expose the Works of Darkness

*“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.”*

(Eph. 5:11-12)

Probably the most misquoted verse in all the Bible is “judge not, that you be not judged” (Matt. 7:1). Jesus commanded that we should not make premature judgment of any person or situation, but that’s not to say that we should fail to use spiritual discernment as we assess the facts. Remember, Jesus also said “you will know them by their fruits” (Matt. 7:16, 20). The Apostle John also instructed us to “test the spirits” (1 John 4:1). In other words, God has called us to use spiritual criteria to determine if something is good or evil.

That brings us to today’s verses. God has commanded us to “be holy, even as I am holy” (1 Pet. 1:16). That means that we are to separate ourselves from “the unfruitful works of darkness.” Lying, stealing, adultery, pornography, etc.; all these and many more are the works of a lost person. Since God has saved us through faith in Jesus, He has called us to depart from these evil acts. Peter said it well – “We have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles” (1 Pet. 4:3).

Rather than doing evil deeds, God has called us to expose them. This is where it’s easy for a Christian to get in trouble. We live in a culture that commands us to mind our own business. That’s impossible for us as followers of Jesus. Christ has called us to be salt and light. Sharing the Gospel is the best way to illumine someone else’s life, but these verses not only instruct us to emphasize the good, but to expose the evil. Why? So God’s people will be kept from the paths of sin. Make it your aim today to lovingly light the world by exposing the darkness.

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