

Identity 17: Ephesians 5:3-21

Ephesians 5:3-7 (NKJV)

³ But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints;

⁴ neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

⁵ For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any 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 be partakers with them.

Now that we are children of God and our Father is the Father of lights, we are not to do the very things that will incur the wrath of God upon the sons of disobedience. We are not to share in their deeds or nature. But beware because they will try to convince you that it is ok to do so. Empty words are words spoken that are UNACCOMPANIED WITH DEMONSTRATION OF SPIRIT AND POWER. Paul said in [1 Thess. 2:1](#) that the deliverance of the gospel was not in vain because it was with boldness and power in spirit of much suffering and conflict. Now when "empty" applies to persons, it is NOT MERELY THE ABSENCE OF GOOD BUT ALSO THE PRESENCE OF EVIL. Zodiates says that "since a vacuum does not exist in man's moral nature," there is no neutrality. I.e. if you don't plant flowers in an empty patch of dirt, you will get weeds. If man is not good by the empowering of Holy Ghost, then man is evil being empowered by the spirit of the world, the evil due to satan being it's ruler and father of all not born again. SO TO LISTEN TO A SINNER WHO IS APPOINTED TO WRATH ON WHETHER TO INDULGE IN SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES OR THOUGHTS IS THE HEIGHT OF IDIOCY AND IS CREATING A MIXTURE IN YOUR SOUL.

Fornication means all sexual immorality and covetousness is the insatiable hunger of the carnal nature--never having enough.

You were once trapped in the same darkness, but now you are light; **your life confirms that light rules**. The spiritual harvest of light is evident in all that is EXCELLENT, INNOCENT, and of IMPECCABLE INTEGRITY. This gives CERTAIN EVIDENCE to the life of God's delight. Do not tolerate anything in your life that associates you with darkness; there is no profit in it for you. LET LIGHT DISPEL ANY RESIDUE OF DARKNESS IN YOU. [Eph. 5:8-11](#).

Jesus is the LOGOS or Word of God in the flesh. LOGOS is the Divine Expression of God. The Word became a living human being. LIGHT CAME INTO DARKNESS.

[John 1:1-5 \(NKJV\)](#)

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² He was in the beginning with God.

³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

[Genesis 1:1-5 \(NKJV\)](#)

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

² The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

⁴ And God saw the light, that *it was* good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

John is making it clear that the Word has been since the beginning with God and IS GOD. He is letting us know that the Word of God was in the creation process spoken of in [Genesis 1](#). In fact, John teaches that ALL THINGS were made through the pre-incarnate Word of God and that in this Word was life and LIGHT. The LIGHT SHINES in darkness but darkness did not comprehend it.

Shines is a PRESENT TENSE meaning that THAT LIGHT HAS GONE FORTH CONTINUOUSLY AND WITHOUT INTERRUPTION FROM THE BEGINNING UNTIL NOW and is still shining. **You could say that the first prophetic word concerning the coming Christ or the WORD IN THE FLESH is right here in [Genesis 1:3](#)!** This is not speaking of the sun, moon, and stars because those were created on day 4. No, God is releasing by His spoken word light and life that has been traveling since that point in time that became flesh in Jesus the Christ and is now resident in us and will culminate in the second return of the Lord.

Darkness is a word that denotes absence of happiness and life. It is used figuratively to speak of not only sin but the CONSEQUENCES OF SIN. The word "skotia" for darkness is a word peculiar to later Greek and used in the NT almost exclusively by John. There was a word more commonly used in the NT. The one John used is the stronger of the two and is used here referring to the BLACKNESS OF DARKNESS. It is a CONDITION of darkness as OPPOSED to light. It refers to death, gloom, and THE DARKNESS OF SIN, WHICH IS DEEP. It is "the moral condition which opposes itself to divine light" and that it is "UTTERLY DARK." **LIGHT AND DARKNESS HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON.** And so we see in [Genesis 1:1-5](#) that darkness was already on the earth more than likely due to the fall of Lucifer previously.

Comprehend means "to lay hold of, seize, take possession." It is not referring to understanding but is a LAYING HOLD OF SO AS TO MAKE ONE'S OWN...TO TAKE POSSESSION OF. It is a SUDDENLY. It also means "TO QUENCH, EXTINGUISH, SNUFF OUT BY STIFLING IT." This reveals a WAR BETWEEN LIGHT AND DARKNESS meaning that darkness tried to overtake or extinguish light but could not BECAUSE LIGHT IS ALWAYS STRONGER THAN DARKNESS AND CAN NEVER BE OVERTAKEN. In the very beginning of creation, war between the enemy and God is revealed, which is why God told Adam to keep the garden. Keep literally means GUARD because if the enemy's darkness due to his sin and consequent fall tried to eliminate light, it would definitely try to do so with Adam and Eve, the Father of lights most prized creation. The word for comprehend also shows that although darkness cannot extinguish light, light does not banish the darkness but both will COEXIST IN THE WORLD FOR A TIME.

In [Gen. 1:4](#) it says that God divided light from darkness. Divided means to make a distinction between the two and detach or separate one from another. WHAT GOD WAS SAYING IS THAT DARKNESS HAS NOTHING IN COMMON WITH LIGHT AND LIGHT WITH DARKNESS. This is why it is heresy to say that God allows or uses the enemy to teach us something or to train character. GOD DOES NOT NEED NOR DESIRE TO USE DARKNESS FOR ANYTHING. The Bible says that He uses the word for instruction and correction. **AGAIN, THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING IN COMMON BETWEEN LIGHT AND DARKNESS NOR DOES GOD USE DARKNESS FOR HIS PURPOSES. God is always opposed to darkness and overcoming it!** In fact, the word darkness in Hebrew means "A TWIST AWAY OF THE LIGHT." It is symbolic of God absolutely separation of light and darkness.

2 Corinthians 6:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

Communion is the joining of two words "common union." It means to share in, participate, fellowship. Light is symbolic of not just Jesus the Christ, the Word of God released but it is also the function of the Word, which is revelation knowledge. Light brings moral and spiritual knowledge that enlightens the soul to the good, acceptable and perfect will of God. Darkness is ignorance and error. THE INTERESTING THING THOUGH IS THAT DARKNESS WILL DISGUISE ITSELF AS LIGHT.

2 Corinthians 11:13-14 (NKJV)

¹³ For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

The enemy was once THE angel of light. He was made up of jewels and musical instruments (music is light on a different frequency). This is why Paul says not to let anyone deceive you with vain words or words without the power of the good news. THIS CAN RANGE FROM ENTICEMENT TO SIN TO DOCTRINE TAUGHT IN THE CHURCH THAT IS WITHOUT POWER, USELESS, AND CAN EVEN CAUSE DEATH IF BELIEVED.

James 1:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

GOD DOES NOT CHANGE AND THERE ISN'T EVEN A TRACE OF DOING SO. Because He is our father now, we are to walk as children of light FINDING OUT WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE ([v. 10](#)). In verse 11 of the NKJV, it says that we are also to EXPOSE THE UNFRUITFUL WORKS OF DARKNESS. I.e. with the gospel and evidence provided by the power that accompanies it, we are to bring revelation OR A REVEALING to others about Jesus Christ and His kingdom of light!

By gossiping about shameful acts that people do in secret, you are giving those things undue mileage. DARKNESS LOSES ITS GRIP UPON THAT WHICH LIGHT MANIFESTS. LIGHT DISPLACES DARKNESS. **This is the message of light: CHRIST AWAKENS**

**YOU FROM YOUR INTOXICATED SLUMBER AND
RESURRECTS YOU OUT OF THE DEATH TRAP OF ENSLAVED
THOUGHT PATTERNS. Eph. 5:12-14**

Everything originates in the heart. [James 1:14](#) says that each of us is tempted when we are drawn away by our own desires. Desires comes from the heart. Jesus said it is not what is put in the body that defiles but WHAT COMES OUT OF THE HEART IN THE FORM OF **WORDS! In fact, in order to be born again, you believe in heart then SPEAK. That's it. But heart is first then speech.** This is the exact way we are healed, prospered, etc. The heart manifests its desires by thoughts. SATAN IS THE EXTERNAL SOURCE OF TEMPTATION BUT NO ONE CAN BLAME HIM FOR THE ROOTS OF SINFUL DEEDS, WHICH ARE WITHIN THE INDIVIDUAL. **But Christ! He has awakened us from the slumber and death of enslaving thought patterns. JUST AS THE LIGHT WAS RELEASED IN THE BEGINNING, WE NOW HAVE THE LIGHT OF THE WORD LIVING IN US IN THE FORM OF HOLY SPIRIT AND HE TEACHES US ALL THINGS PERTAINING TO THE WORD.** This is the process of LIGHT DISPLACING DARKNESS in our thinking that is a residue of being trained as a sinner our entire lives. As you continue this process, your identity is unveiled to your soul more and more and darkness that once bound your thinking loosens its grip! DON'T NAVEL GAZE AND FOCUS ON SIN! FOCUS YOUR GAZE AND ATTENTION ON THE WORD OF GOD!

Take accurate stock of your life; wise conduct defeats foolishness. Wisdom converts time into opportunity and frees your day from slog. MAKE HIS MASTER PLAN YOUR MEDITATION. While wine offers no escape from the evil of the day, SPIRIT CERTAINLY DOES. **INDULGE IN SPIRIT INTOXICATION!** Speak psalms to one another, burst out in spontaneous celebration songs and spirit-inspired resonance. In your heart do not let music stop; continue to TOUCH THE LORD WITH WHISPERS OF WORSHIP. Because you are identified in the Name of Jesus Christ, you can afford to always overflow with gratitude to the Father, in spite of everything that happens to you. You are NOT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES but ABOVE CIRCUMSTANCES BECAUSE YOU ARE IN HIM! Inspired by selfless consideration you are witnessed in Christ, show perfect courtesy to one another. [Eph. 5:15-21](#)

[V. 15](#) of KJV is:

"See" is *blepō*, "to discern mentally, observe, perceive, consider, contemplate, look to in the sense of taking care, take heed."

"Circumspectly" is *akribōs*, "exactly, accurately, carefully." "Walk" is *peripateō*, "to order one's behavior, to conduct one's self." The

translation reads, "Be constantly taking heed how accurately you are conducting yourselves." That is, see to it that your conduct is accurate with respect to the demands of the Word of God. It is like a motorist accurately following on the right side of the center line dividing traffic. Wuest's Word Studies from the Greek New Testament - Wuest's Word Studies from the Greek New Testament – Volume 1.

Wise living is the result of being filled with the Holy Spirit. Redeeming the time means literally to TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ANY PERIODS OF OPPORTUNITY to further the kingdom's master plan BEFORE DEATH OR PERSECUTION hinders this. Paul spent time in prison, which hindered him from furthering the gospel. Being in prison for the gospel is noble but a hindrance! And so we are to live our lives with wisdom seizing opportunities KNOWING THE WILL OF GOD. **The way this is done is to INDULGE IN SPIRIT INTOXICATION.** This literally means TO BE UNDER HIS INFLUENCE. The WAY THIS IS DONE is by speaking to one another and to yourself in spiritual songs, hymns, and psalms making melody in your heart to the Lord WITH THANKSGIVING. Intoxicated people are bold, brash, and do not care if they offend others. Self-respect and timidity fly out the window and they have FUN WHILE DOING IT!

Side note: melody refers to a stringed instrument. Scientists have discovered that the heart has strings!

You are no longer of darkness. DO NOT BELIEVE THE LIE OF THE ENEMY WHEN HE TELLS YOU DIFFERENT. You have light dwelling in you and that light has already overcome darkness. You are to order your conduct as a child of light, staying intoxicated in the Spirit, taking advantage of opportune times, and submitting to one another. This word means "to place under in an orderly fashion." There is an order to the household of God. As we all stay in our proper place and submit to one another especially those over us, we are in the safety of the order God has established.

In this verse Paul speaks of yet another way in which the Spirit-filled life should express itself. "Submitting" is *hupotassō*. The simple verb *tassō* was used in classical Greek in a military meaning, "to draw up in order of battle, to form, array, marshal" both troops or ships. It speaks of soldiers marshalled in military order under a commanding officer. Thus, it speaks of the subjection of one individual under or to another.

Wuest's Word Studies from the Greek New Testament - Wuest's Word Studies from the Greek New Testament – Volume 1.