

# Ephesians Series

Lesson #216

December 3, 2023

Dean Bible Ministries

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# Standing Against Deception

## Ephesians 5:6–7



# EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK  
& WARFARE  
OF THE BELIEVER

**Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”**

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**Eph. 4:17, “This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,**

**Eph. 4:18, “*because* their understanding *is* darkened, having been alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;”**

**ματαιότης *mataiotēs*  
fem sing dat (f) futility;  
emptiness; purposelessness**

**Eph. 5:6, “Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.”**

**κενός *kenos***

**masc plur dat**

**empty, foolish, worthless; vacuity**

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**Col. 2:8, “Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.”**

**Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”**

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# **The Lies People Believe**

## **1. The Creator-Redeemer God of the Bible does not exist.**

**Atheism, agnosticism, pantheism, panentheism,  
materialism, polytheism, paganism of Africa, Asia,  
Americas, ancient European tribes ...  
Greek, Roman, Persian, Canaanite, Egyptian pantheons  
...  
Philosophies of Aristotle, Plato, Plotinus, Seneca ...  
Religions of Mohammed, Rabbis, Joseph Smith ...  
Philosophies of Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Hume,  
Kant ...**



**2. With no Creator-Redeemer God, human beings are free to guess and to create their own reality.**

- Human beings are random accidents**
- They can make up their own rules**
- Make up their own identities**
- Make up their own gender**
- Make up their own facts about history and events**
- Powerful enough to change the climate (climate is so unstable puny humans can destroy it)**

## **Lies believed ...**

- **Humans can change their nature**
- **Humans (who are inherently corrupt) can bring in a perfect world**
- **Humans can determine their own truth**
- **Humans can deny audio-video evidence of mass murder, rape, murder and torture of babies, infants, rapes of women, torture, mutilation and murder of thousands of innocent civilians (non-Hamas supporting Arabs, Israelis)**
- **Humans can determine our own reality, rewrite the past, bring in perfection**

**Isa. 14:13, “For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north;**

**Isa. 14:14, “ ‘I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’ ”**

**2 Cor. 11:14, “And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.**

**2 Cor. 11:15, “Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.”**

**2 Cor. 4:4, “whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.”**

**John 8:44, “You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”**

**Rev. 12:9, “So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”**

**1. This is the foundation, the denial of the existence of the Creator as the Bible describes Him.**

**Rom. 1:18, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,”  
[NKJV]**



**Eph. 5:6, “Let no one deceive you with empty words (speeches, arguments, sermons, books, texts, social media posts, [philosophy, sociology, psychology, history, English, political science, economics, lectures based on pagan thought]), for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.**

**Eph. 5:7, “Therefore do not be partakers with them.”**

**Eph. 2:2, “in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,”**

**“sons of disobedience” = unbelievers**

**unbelievers = darkness (who they are, we were)**

**believers = children of light (but we can still walk in darkness imitating sons of disobedience, i.e., walking like Gentiles)**

**Rom. 1:17**, “For in it the righteousness of God **is revealed** from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’

**Rom. 1:18**, “For **the wrath of God** **is revealed** from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,” [NKJV]

*ἀποκαλύπτω **apokaluptō***

**3 sing pres mid indic**

**to reveal;**

**The middle voice is intensive, emphasizing the subject, “righteousness of God” in vs. 17; “wrath of God” in vs. 18.**

**2. The Devil's original sin was arrogance expressed as denial of the Creator-creature distinction—elevating the creature, himself, over the Creator God.**

**3. In the same way all views of ultimate reality—atheism, agnosticism, pantheism, panentheism, materialism, polytheism, limited God, open theism, Islamism, Buddhism, liberal Christianity—all at some point invalidate the Creator-creature distinction. They have been deceived and are living by a lie.**

**4. This is accomplished and promoted through various means of communication, words—whether texts, emails, media, TV, literature, etc. This does not condemn those means. God created language and Satan and his minions, including an army of humans, co-opt that language for their nefarious purposes.**

**5. Scripture says the knowledge of God is clearly revealed both external to man, so that he observes that reality, but internally through God's making it plainly evident to them in their souls.**

**Rom. 1:19, “because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.”**

**Rom. 1:20, “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,**

**Rom. 1:21, “because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.” [NKJV]**

**ματαιόω *mataioō* 3 plur aor pass indic to be given to futility  
See Eph. 4:17, “futile”**



## **6. The result is described in Rom. 1:24, 25**

**Rom. 1:24, “Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves**

**Rom. 1:25, “who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.” [NKJV]**

**7. As a result of that rejection of Truth, verses 26 ff explain the consequences, which are now evident all around us in our culture. And social pressure is mounting all around us to validate these deceptions.**

**Rom. 1:26, “For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.**

**Rom. 1:27, “Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.” [NKJV]**

**Rom. 1:28, “And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;**

**Rom. 1:29, “being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers,**

**Rom. 1:30, “backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,**

**Rom. 1:31, “undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;**

**Rom. 1:32, “who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.” [NKJV]**

**8. The devil hates the truth and hates all who stand for the truth. His desire is to force all to conform to his lies, his deceptions.**

**9. How do we fight this, how do we not partner with them?**

**Eph. 5:7, “Therefore do not be partakers with them.”**

**Therefore do not become *summetochoi***

**συμμέτοχος *summetochos* masc plur nom sharer, co-partaker, partners**

# Conclusion

- 1. We must know and believe that there is only one truth, the truth revealed in the Bible.**

**John 17:17, “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”**

# Conclusion

**2. We must read, learn, meditate, memorize, reflect, study, and internalize God's Word.**

**Psa. 119:11, "Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You."**

**3. For all of us, we can no longer live as if the transformational events of the last few decades socially, politically, and religiously have not taken place.**



**Eph. 6:10, “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.**

**Eph. 6:11, “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” [NKJV]**

**Eph. 6:13, “Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”**

**Eph. 6:14, “Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,”  
[NKJV]**

**2 Tim. 3:1, “But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:**

**2 Tim. 3:2, “For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,**

**2 Tim. 3:3, “unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,**

**2 Tim. 3:4, “traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,**

**2 Tim. 3:5, “having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!”**