

You Are Light (Ephesians 5:8-13)

- I. **Introduction**
 - A. The Transfiguration of Jesus
 - 1. God is light, and the inner nature of Christ is light
(1 Jn 1:5, Job 41:18, Ps 27:1, Mt 4:16, Lk 2:30-32, Jn 1:4-5,8-9, Jn 8:12, Rv 21:23)
 - B. Review of the context – *be imitators of God by being light*
 - C. Outline of the sermon and reading the text
- II. **The Contrast (Eph 5:8) *darkness vs. light***
 - A. Light: intellectual and moral – we become *sons of light* (Jn 12:36)
 - 1. Intellectual light in salvation (2 Cor 4:4-6)
 - 2. Moral light (Rom 13:12)
 - B. *You were formerly* – a condition that no longer exists
 - 1. Eph 2:1-3, John 3:19-20
 - 2. every non-Christian is a child of the devil and a slave of sin
 - 3. a life of darkness ends in an eternity of darkness (Mt 8:12)
 - C. *You are light*
 - 1. John 3:21 – we are not afraid to have our deeds exposed
 - 2. present indicative – what *you are now* (Col 1:13, 1 Pt 2:9)
 - 3. verb is not modified – *you ARE light* (Mt 5:14)
 - D. The contrast is exclusive – no overlap between darkness and light
 - 1. Separation – a theme in Ephesians
- III. **The Characteristics (Eph 5:9-10)**
 - A. *Goodness* – moral goodness (1 Th 5:15, Gal 5:22)
 - B. *Righteousness*
 - 1. Forensic or legal righteousness (Mic 7:8-9, Rom 4:5)
 - 2. Actual living righteous (Ro 6:13, 1 Tim 6:11, 1 Jn 2:29)
 - C. *Truth*
 - D. *Finding out what is acceptable to the Lord* (v. 10)
 - 1. by saturating your mind with the Word of God (Ro 12:2)
- IV. **The Commission (Eph 5:11-13) APPLICATION**
 - A. *Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness*
 - 1. take note of the extreme language (Eph 5:7, 12; Ps 1)
 - B. *rather expose them* (Mt 5:14-16) what that does NOT mean
 - 1. separation does not mean monasticism
 - 2. exposing sin is not unloving (1 Co 13:6)
 - 3. exposing sin is not to be Pharisaical
 - 4. exposing sin is not the same as ‘moralizing’
 - C. *rather expose them by:*
 - 1. Preaching as Christ did (Jn 12:46-49)
 - 2. Public debate or apologetics (1 Pet 3:15)
 - 3. Displaying a godly and holy life
 - 4. Loving one another (1 John 2:9-10)
 - D. The commission is to preach the Gospel (Rom 1:16-18, 1 Jn 1:5-7)