

Children of Light

Eph.5:1-17

9-5-2010

It seems the older I get the more the demands of our God are upon my heart, stirring my desire to live with greater dedication, burdening my understanding with deeper conviction, motivating my soul to cry out for my children. (Children of my flesh and also the children of our faith) I see in the depths of God's Holy Word His longing for His people to be holy, His desire for His holy ones to live above the base standards of the nations around us, including the nation we are by birth citizens of.

We are living in the times that God planted us in, you and I both. It does us little good to be nostalgic and look backwards with longing, neither does it do much for us to look forward to the coming days of the Lord when all will be swept clean in the wind and fury of His wrath. No, it does us little good, nor does it do anyone else any good. What would be beneficial is for each of God's children to take to heart these days that we are living in, for it is to these days that we will bear responsibility and to these days that we will be called to account for. God has said, redeem the time, and so we should. (Eph.5:16)

Each of God's children, the redeemed out of the world who have been purchased with Jesus' blood, you and I included, have a responsibility to live as children of light in a world full of darkness. The question may naturally follow: what does it look like to live as children of light since that is in fact what we are? No disrespect to our Amish brothers and sisters but does living as children of light call for us to live our lives frozen in time as they have attempted to? I have the deepest respect for their noble attempts and am envious of the purity and incense of their children but I think

their attempt misses what Jesus was desiring for His children.

As you read your bible (you do this faithful I trust) you will find that what our Lord Jesus calls us to do is live like we know who He is. Jesus is the Exalted Son of God who does now still reside on the very throne of God the Father, creator of the world. It is this very same Jesus who is still the sustainer of all things. (Heb.1:3; Col.1:17)

So then, how ought we who are the children of light live? First order of business would be a matter of resolve. We each must determine or resolve in our hearts and minds to whom it is we are going to serve. Joshua was correct in challenging his generation to resolve the age old conflict: "...choose this day whom you will serve..." (Josh.24:14-15)

When each of us accepted God's offer of salvation one of our points of agreement in the covenant of Jesus' blood was this very thing: choosing to make Jesus Lord of our lives. Honor your side of the covenant. Honor Jesus with your life. (Fact – Jesus is Lord even if He is not yours)

Second order of business; clean your house of the idols of your past affections. No you do not have to throw the TV out the window, but you might have to throw away a few movies, a few books, a few magazines. You may have to choose more carefully what you watch, what you read, and what you listen to. Evaluate your life style, what captivates your time, your attention, your devotion, your heart. These are things that may well be the idolatrous gods of your life. Reject, renounce and cast them out of your life.

Consider these words from Ezekiel 14:6-11 and please do not say in your heart, that was old and we are new, we are called to serve the same God whom Jesus is the expressed image of with the same singularity of heart and soul and mind. Now compare and contemplate Eph.5:1-17