



Ephesians 5:1-17 AMP

1 Therefore become imitators of God [copy Him and follow His example], as well-beloved children [imitate their father]; **2** and walk *continually* in love [that is, value one another – practice empathy and compassion, unselfishly seeking the best for others], just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and sacrifice to God [slain for you, so that it became] a sweet fragrance.



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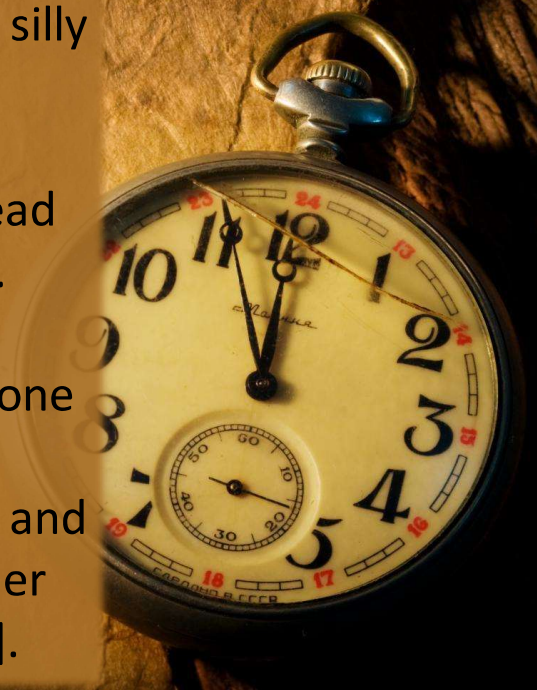
3 But sexual immorality and all [moral] impurity [indecent, offensive behavior] or greed must not even be hinted at among you, as is proper among saints [for as believers our way of life, whether in public or in private reflects the validity of our faith].



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4 Let there be no filthiness and silly talk, or course [obscene or vulgar] joking, *because* such things are not appropriate [for believers]; but instead speak of your thankfulness [to God].

5 For be sure of this; no immoral, impure, or greedy person – for that one is [in effect] and idolater – has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God [for such a person places a higher value on something other than God].



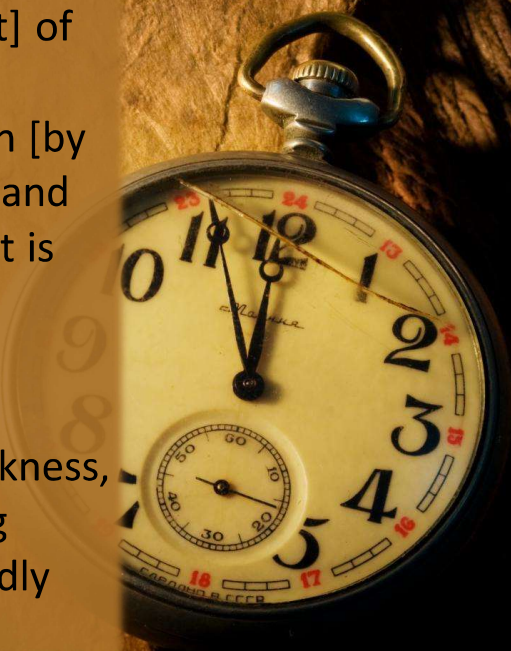
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6 Let no one deceive you with empty arguments [that encourage you to sin], for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience [those who habitually sin]. ⁷ So do not participate *or* even associate with them [in the rebelliousness of sin]. ⁸ For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of Light [live as those who are native-born to the Light]



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9 (for the fruit [the effect, the result] of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), ¹⁰ trying to learn [by experience] what is pleasing to the Lord [and letting your lifestyles be examples of what is most acceptable to Him—your behavior expressing gratitude to God for your salvation]. ¹¹ Do not participate in the worthless *and* unproductive deeds of darkness, but instead expose them [by exemplifying personal integrity, moral courage, and godly character];



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12 ² for it is disgraceful even to mention the things that such people practice in secret. **13** But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light [of God's precepts], for it is light that makes everything visible. **14** For this reason He says, "Awake, sleeper, And arise from the dead, And Christ will shine [as dawn] upon you *and* give you light."



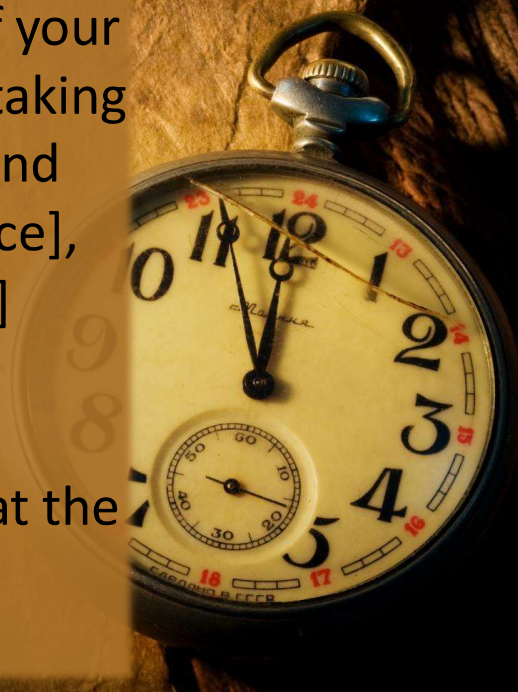
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15 Therefore see that you walk carefully [living life with honor, purpose, and courage; shunning those who tolerate and enable evil], not as the unwise, but as wise [sensible, intelligent, discerning people],



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¹⁶ [b]making the very most of your time [on earth, recognizing and taking advantage of each opportunity and using it with wisdom and diligence], because the days are [filled with] evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish *and* thoughtless, but understand *and* firmly grasp what the will of the Lord is.



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16 making the very most of your time [on earth, recognizing and taking advantage of each opportunity and using it with wisdom and diligence], because the days are [filled with] evil.



Time

- Fixed or special occasion for opportunity



Once the past is past, it's no longer an opportunity



