

Elder Bobby Willis



“The Light of the World”

None of God’s born-again children go about sinning on purpose, at least they should not be doing so. However, today’s society has gotten to the point of denying that sin is evil and to be avoided. Two things we do know: 1- We are sinners (both by nature and by our own actions) and 2- We should not be sinning . While we are yet sinners, we are not to be a partaker with the sinner in evil deeds.

Paul said in Ephesians 5:7, “**Be not ye therefore partakers with them,**” as he referred to those deceiving children of disobedience. Prior to our being born again of the Spirit of God, we were walking in darkness (meaning contrary to the light of God’s word). How then do we not walk in darkness, but rather in the light? Paul tells us in Ephesians 5:6 to “**Let no man deceive you with vain words...**” and, to “**walk as children of light:...**” First, we are to ever be on the watch for those who, with enticing words and cunning ways, go about trying to deceive those would desire to be a good disciple of Christ. Secondly, we are to “**walk as children of light**” by relying on the fruit of the Spirit to guide and direct us. The whole purpose of watching and walking as God has instructed us is to prove “**what is acceptable unto the Lord**” (vs. 10).

In speaking of these things I have often overlooked Paul’s words found in Ephesians 5:12. While most of God’s children who are attempting to walk as a disciple of Christ know they are to “**have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness**” (Ephesians 5:11), it is the admonition of verse 12 of which we all fall way short. “**For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret**” (vs. 12). You see, it is normal for those seeking to do evil to want to do their evil deeds under the cover of darkness, in secret (hiding their deeds), and even “**...transposing themselves into the angels of Christ**” (II Corinthians 11:13).

Why then is it a “**shame even to speak of those things?**” By speaking of the evil deeds of those around us, by acknowledging to others what these deeds are in extended conversations, and by allowing our mind to dwell on these type of

thoughts; it takes our mind away from where it should be, on the light of the world - Jesus Christ. Furthermore, it gives credence (exposure or credit) to those who are doing such things.

Notice what happens when we walk in light rather than in darkness. John 8:12 says, **“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”** In times past, while walking to a deer stand before daybreak, I found myself walking in the darkness of early morning. It is so easy to stumble and fall when walking in darkness, even while having a small amount of self-provided light. The only way to see (know) what we should be doing, or what we should NOT be doing, is to walk in the light of lights, Jesus Christ our Lord. Jesus stated it well in John 11:9 when He said, **“...If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world.”** That light my friend is none other than the Son of God, Jesus Christ.

Most power from a small flashlight is weak at best and often burns out, leaving us in darkness. The light of Christ never burns out, as He is **“the light of the world. “Think About It!”**