

The Subtle Snare

Sunday Morning, October 21, 2012

Thesis:

Christians Guard Against Evil Practices That Destroys Lives and Follow Godliness That Gives Life!

Introduction:

(John 10:10)

A thief comes only to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance.

I. Light Verses Darkness

(Ephesians 5: 5-14)

5 For know and recognize this: Every sexually immoral or impure or greedy person, who is an idolater, does not have an inheritance in the kingdom of the Messiah and of God.

6 Let no one deceive you with empty arguments, for God's wrath is coming on the disobedient because of these things.

7 Therefore, do not become their partners.

8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light—

9 for the fruit of the light results in all goodness, righteousness, and truth—

10 discerning what is pleasing to the Lord.

11 Don't participate in the fruitless works of darkness, but instead expose them.

12 For it is shameful even to mention what is done by them in secret.

13 Everything exposed by the light is made clear,

14 for what makes everything clear is light. Therefore it is said: Get up, sleeper, and rise up from the dead, and the Messiah will shine on you.

- Immorality **Vss.** Morales
- Ungodly Marriage **Vss.** Godly Marriage
- Materialism **Vss.** Denying Oneself of Worldly Possessions to Serve God
- Focusing on things like: Harry Potter, Twilight, Sabrina the Teenage Witch, Charmed, Paranormal Activity **Vss.** Clean, Family, God Orientated Literature and Movies

II. The Subtle Snare of Idolatry

(Psalm 135: 15-18)

15 The idols of the nations are of silver and gold, made by human hands.

16 They have mouths but cannot speak, eyes, but cannot see.

17 They have ears but cannot hear; indeed, there is no breath in their mouths.

18 Those who make them are just like them, as are all who trust in them.

Without Absolute Values or Absolute Truth
We Become Self-Absorbed

Money/Idol = Cold and Heartless

III. An Increasing Appeal for Darkness

(Deuteronomy 18: 9-14)

9 "When you enter the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not imitate the detestable customs of those nations.

10 No one among you is to make his son or daughter pass through the fire, practice divination, tell fortunes, interpret omens, practice sorcery,

11 cast spells, consult a medium or a familiar spirit, or inquire of the dead.

12 Everyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord, and the Lord your God is driving out the nations before you because of these detestable things.

13 You must be blameless before the Lord your God.

14 Though these nations you are about to drive out listen to fortune-tellers and diviners, the Lord your God has not permitted you to do this.

(Ephesians 5: 10-12)

10 discerning what is pleasing to the Lord.

11 Don't participate in the fruitless works of darkness, but instead expose them.

12 For it is shameful even to mention what is done by them in secret.

(I Corinthians 6: 9-10)

9 Don't you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God's kingdom? Do not be deceived: No sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, or anyone practicing homosexuality, 10 no thieves, greedy people, drunkards, verbally abusive people, or swindlers will inherit God's kingdom.

I Corinthians 6: 9-10

(I Corinthians 15: 33-34)

33 Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."

34 Come to your senses and stop sinning, for some people are ignorant about God. I say this to your shame.

Conclusion:

(II Chronicles 7:14)

and My people who are called by My name humble themselves, pray and seek My face, and turn from their evil ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land.

(John 10:10)

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