

Wake-up Call!

April 23rd & 24th, 2016

Ephesians 5:7-14

“Awake, O sleeper...!”

The Warning Call

- ❖ God sends out the warning call to Christians concerning the danger of compromise in the sexual areas of life!

“For you may be sure of this...” verse 5

“Let no one deceive you with empty words...” verse 6

“Therefore do not become partners with them...” verse 7

“Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness...” verse 11

“For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret...” verse 12

“For because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience...”! verse 6

The one who does such things *“...has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God”!* verse 5

The Wake-up Call *Ephesians 5:14*

- ❖ God sends out the wake-up call to Christians to expose the things of darkness and to walk in the light!

Scripture gives us these directives:

Proverbs 6:10-11 “A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man.”

Proverbs 20:13 “Love not sleep, lest you come to poverty; open your eyes, and you will have plenty of bread.”

Matthew 13:25 “but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away.”

Judges 16 ... Samson was taken captive not because he lied, cheated, stole, murdered, but because he slept!

- ❖ Are some Christians being lulled to sleep spiritually?

Sleep Indicators:

Inactivity: stopping of all physical activities – the muscles relax

↳ No pursuit of God, His Word, His work

Loss of awareness of our surroundings: Sleep-walking – unaware of where we are – movement without intentional direction!

↳ Unaware of the detrimental influence of a Godless culture on Christians.

Dreaming: being in fantasy world – can be intense or frightening and seem real, but it isn't!

↳ Living vicariously through Godly Christians we admire!

❖ What does “waking up” look like?

📖 Revelation 3:1-6

“...strengthen what remains...for I have not found your works complete...”

☞ What “works” have been left undone in your life?

“Remember, then, what you received and heard. ...”

☞ Proactively direct your thoughts to: past counsel, teachings on marriage, warnings by Godly friends, Scriptures that have given you strength.

“Keep it and repent”

☞ Change what needs to be changed in your life to line up with God’s Word and His priorities.

♦ Is the busyness of my life lulling me to sleep spiritually?

Mark 6:30-32 “The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. And he said to them, ‘Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.’ For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves.”

♦ Is my private life honoring to God?

Psalms 101:2-3 “I will ponder the way that is blameless. Oh when will you come to me? I will walk with integrity of heart within my house; I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless. I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me.

♦ Am I basing my choices in life on God’s Word?

Romans 6:17-18 “But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.”

*“Awake O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you!”*

Endnotes:

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