



## *Ephesians 5:6-7*

### **Do Not Be Deceived**

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## **Empty Words Deceive**

### **Ephesians 5:6a (NASB)**

Let no one deceive you with empty words...

- "Empty" is also used concerning deception in Colossians 2:8
- The deceivers claim there will be no consequences for sin
- Satan's empty words to Eve implied she could sin and not die

## **God's Wrath Is Real**

### **Ephesians 5:6b (NASB)**

...for because of these things **the wrath of God comes** upon the sons of disobedience.

- "These things" are things such as Paul warned about in Eph. 5:3-5
- "Sons of" is an Hebraic expression meaning "characterized by"
- The universal call of the gospel is something to be obeyed

## **Christians Are Partakers in the Gospel, Not Disobedience**

### **Ephesians 5:7 (NASB)**

Therefore do not be **partakers** with them;

- "Partakers" is only used here and in Ephesians 3:6 in the NT
- We partake in the promises of God, not the wrath of God
- All believers are part of the "one new man" not "the sons of disobedience"

## Implications and Applications

- We must know and embrace the truth to avoid empty deception
- Believing all of God's promises comforts believers in our trials
- Faith or unbelief are issues of obedience or disobedience

## Ever Present Danger

### **2 Corinthians 11:3, 4 (LEB)**

But I am afraid that, as **the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness**, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ. For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully.

## Comfort and Hope for Believers *Psalm 73*

- Statement of faith; Ps. 73:1
- The problem of the comfortable wicked Ps. 73:2-12
- The believer's lament; Ps. 73:13-16
- The danger of unbelief and the comfort of faith; Ps. 73:17-22
- Confession of faith; Ps. 73:23-28

## The Obedience of Faith

### **Romans 1:5 (LEB)**

through whom we have received grace and apostleship for **the obedience of faith** among all the Gentiles on behalf of his name,

- **The gospel is to be obeyed, and also results in an obedient life**
- **Believing the gospel is not only obedience, but brings honor to His name**
- **Eph. 1:6, 12, 14: "praise of His glory"**