True Love or Counterfeit Love - Ephesians 5:3-6

cbc.net.nz

1) True love gives, counterfeit love takes – vs 3–4

Words: contrast, counterfeit, drunk, gratification, gives, hearts, innuendo, marriage, obscenity, saints, self-control, separate, serving, sexual, thanks, thoughts, unclean

"But" clearly shows us the direction Paul is going—we have a _____ coming up.

We are bombarded by sexuality as a distorted form of love, or Satan's _____ love.

a) The heart condition – vs 3

"Immorality" refers to all _____ sin - a lack of _____ (Acts 24:24–25).

"Impurity" is more general - anything that is _____ and filthy.

Ten times it is associated with sexual sin, referring to immoral _____, passions, ideas and fantasies.

"greed" says, "I want more" - self-_____ and self-centredness.

Any form of sex outside of _____ is sin.

Paul says this shouldn't be named among you. Notice he calls us "_____" - holy ones, set apart.

We are to be _____ from the world and all this sin.

b) Speech – vs 4

"Filthiness" refers to general _____; our immediate context relates it to sexual talk (Col 3:8).

"Silly talk" We get our word moron from it - stupid talk that comes from the _____ or "gutter mouth."

"Coarse jesting" is more pointed and determined—sexual _____.

Paul says this is not fitting for Christians.

What we see here is the revelation of the heart - our speech will betray our _____ (Mark 7:20–23).

The world's understanding of love - it takes, is selfish, full of lust, flowing out through speech & actions.

Paul then tells us what the heart which has true love in it does - it gives _____.

True love is sacrificial; it _____. The one imitating God will be focused on _____ others.

2) Don't be deceived by counterfeit love – vs 5–6

Words: bodies, characterised, Christian, deceived, desiring, disobedience, eternity, greed, grip, idolater, inherit, know, nature, new, person, reminding, sin, worshipping, wrath

Paul now tells us why we shouldn't be _____ and why we shouldn't be living like verses 3–4.

Paul has no problem _____ them - it is that important (Rom 15:15; 2 Tim 1:6; 1 Cor 4:17).

Notice the same sins as verse 3, but Paul now identifies the _____ as immoral, impure and covetous.

This is their _____- God doesn't separate the sin from the person (Ephesians 2:1–3).

It is only separated in the _____ because we have a _____ nature.

Sin is now in our _____, and we are free from its _____ on us.

Although we do _____, it shouldn't characterise us.

The covetous man called an _____. Counterfeit love is characterised by _____.

The greedy person is in fact _____ whatever it is he is desiring.

Paul is warning us - we should only be _____ God (Psalm 42:1).

People characterised by these sins will not _____ the kingdom of Christ and God.

The redeemed are not _____ by these sins.

No matter how much someone says they _____ and love God, if their life is characterised by Satan's love, they do not know Him (Matthew 7:23; 1 John 3:9–10).

Paul calls them sons of _____. Excluded from the kingdom, and under God's _____.

His anger is aimed at them, and they will be under that wrath for all _____ (Matt 13:42; Mark 9:48).

OUR JOURNEY THROUGH EPHESIANS

CHAPTERS 1-3 - THEOLOGY
What God has done for us in Christ

THEREFORE...
Ephesians 4:1

CHAPTERS 4-6 - PRACTICAL
How we live because of who we are in Christ

THEOLOGY

CHAPTER 1
Our Riches in Christ

Every spiritual blessing is ours in Christ.

Chosen by the Father
Redeemed by the Son
Sealed by the Spirit

CHAPTER 2
From Death to Life
From Strangers to Family

Dead in sin - made alive by grace

Separated → brought near
United → built together

CHAPTER 3
The Mystery Revealed

Jew and Gentile made one body in Christ.

The church displays God's wisdom → strengthened to know Christ's love → filled with God

Everything God has done prepares us for how we are now called to live.

PRACTICAL

CHAPTER 4 - WALKING WORTHY OF OUR CALLING

Walk in unity → Grow together towards maturity
Put off the old self → Put on the new

Speak truth · Serve others · Build one another up
Forgive as God forgave us in Christ

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

CHAPTER 5 - WALKING IN LOVE

5:1-2 - Imitate God

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us.

5:3-6 - True Love or Counterfeit Love?

True love gives; counterfeit love takes.
Live as God's holy people, with thanksgiving.
Do not be deceived by counterfeit love.

One body in Christ. Many parts. One purpose: His glory. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27