

## Wrath upon the Sons of Disobedience

### Scripture

“But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.” (Eph 5:3-6 NKJV)

### Devotion

Sin brings wrath upon the sons of disobedience. Believers are to imitate God in love. The sons of disobedience do just the opposite.

There is a movement, as there has always been, to cheapen grace. Paul dealt with it in his letter to the Romans. “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?” (Ro 6:1 NKJV) “If grace has overcome sin then why not sin all the more?” was the thought. To this Paul says, “Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?” (Ro 6:2 NKJV)

Still there are those who continue to argue that sin is not as bad as it sounds. Therefore, Paul says to the Ephesians, “Let no one deceive you with empty words.” Again, this is another form of the lie; you can sin and not die. Just as the serpent said to Eve, “You will not surely die” (Gen. 3:4), evil doers continue to turn the grace of God into lewdness (Jude 1:4).

The truth is the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. If you are characterized by disobedience, then you have no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. This should be obvious as we have been given a guarantee of our inheritance.

“In Him you also [trusted], after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.” (Eph 1:13-14 NKJV) We appreciate that guarantee by the fruits of it. Notice the following.

“But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told [you] in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those [who are] Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.” (Ga 5:18-24 NKJV)

Do not buy into the lie that sin is a small thing. Avoid it with all diligence. Jesus speaking to the seriousness of sin says, “If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched— — “where ‘Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched.’ “And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame, rather than having two feet, to be cast into hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched— — “where ‘Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched.’ “And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire— — “where ‘Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched.’” (Mark 9:43-48 NKJV)

“Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.” (1Jo 5:21 NKJV)