



JESUS IS LIGHT MINISTRIES

(LIGHT CHAPEL, WORLDWIDE)

32-39, Ajayi Bankole Street, Agodo-Egbe, Lagos.

BIBLE STUDY OUTLINE (04/02/2015)

Year of Double Honour

STUDY 04: LIVING HONOURABLY IN A CRUDE WORLD (I)

TEXT: I PETER 2: 9 – 12.

Introduction

Crude and crass behaviour seems to be everywhere these days. With the standards of the culture sinking dismally lower and lower, it's all too easy to compare our behaviour to that of society's norms, rather than to the holy standard of Christ. Bathroom humour, crass comments, and foul-mouthed behaviour is not only accepted, but applauded today, even in many Christian circles (*Philip. 2: 15*). How should we as set-apart (women for example) respond to this ever growing trend? God's solution is clear - as Christ-followers, we are to live, speak, and act with Heavenly honour (*I Pt 3: 11; I Tim 2: 9 - 10*).

BIBLICAL CONCEPT OF LIVING HONOURABLY (Read *Luke 16: 15*)

Honour means living with Heavenly nobility; it means speaking and acting in a way that reflects the pure behaviour of our God (*Philip 4:5; Matt 5: 16*) rather than the coarseness of this world (*Eph 5: 3 - 5*). Does that mean a sombre, serious life devoid of laughter and humour? Quite the contrary! God is the One who invented humour in the first place, and He loves to see His children laugh. But He longs to see His children laughing at the right things, not the wrong ones (*I Cor. 13: 6; Prov. 14: 9*).

The Bible is very clear about what kinds of things our thoughts and conversations should revolve around. Not baseness, crudeness, or lewdness but rather, things that are "*true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy*" (read *Phil 4:8*)

THE SOLUTION

Phil 2: 5 admonishes us to develop the mindset of Jesus. We cannot develop the "mind of Christ" when our minds are filled with the baseness of this culture. *1 Cor. 13:6* reminds us, "*Love does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices in the truth.*" And *Psalms 12:8* warns, "*The wicked prowl on every side when vileness is exalted among the sons of men.*" Watch out! What is your source of amusement or the humour in which you derive pleasure? Remember the word of our Lord Jesus in *Matt 12:36*.