

# “THINK ON THESE THINGS”

Philippians 4:8

## WOKE TO EVIL

By Garland M. Robinson

The *Woke Culture* is broken and works in reverse. God does not want anyone to be lost and confined to that place of everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels. But that’s exactly where following the *woke* crowd will lead you.

The word “woke” is the new buzz-word of the day. It is used to characterize an agenda of so-called “political correctness.” It is supposed to represent those who have left old policies and practices behind and embraced a new and enlightened path of fairness and “so-called” social justice. Those who are “woke” are representative of the best and the brightest – so they tell us. But according to heaven’s truth and their practice, they are the worst and unenlightened. They not only hate the truth, they are antagonistic and rebellious to the truth.

A dictionary definition of “woke” uses words such as: alert, attentive, aware, vigilant, watchful. Those who embrace the “woke” agenda would have us believe their mission is good, fair, decent, just. But their application of it is the very opposite of these things. That should not surprise us, that’s the way the devil works. He is sly and cunning.

Satan is all into the woke concept. It plays right into his hands. But, don’t expect the devil to tell the truth about it, or anything else for that matter. He is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44). He dresses evil in robes of righteousness in order to dupe willing participants to follow along. He will never show you the drunkard lying in the gutter in his own vomit and filth. He’ll show you a party of a laughing crowd enjoying a “few” at “happy hour.” He don’t want you to see dope addicts strung out on opioids to pilfer and steal, even from their own parents and grandparents. He won’t show you the hogs wallowing in the mire. He will never show you the destructive nature of one’s lifestyle. But this is exactly the practice of the woke crowd! Don’t fall prey to their policies. It is everything that is indecent, immoral, shameful, and ungodly. It is the very opposite of righteousness and truth.

You would think being “woke” would be used in a good light to describe alertness, attentiveness, soberness, watchfulness. The Scriptures use such words to awake us to righteousness, not wickedness. We are told to ***“have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. But all things that are reprovèd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit”*** (Eph. 5:11-18). According to verse 15, the woke policy is walking/living as fools. Anything that leads us away from God is evil. Let us not be unwise, but let us understand we must live according to God’s will. Alcohol dulls the mind and leads to excessive behavior (v.18). Carousing the streets, destroying property, breaking, burning, rioting are all condemned by God, but are upheld by the woke agenda.

The practice of evil and wickedness is not new. It has flourished through the generations. Solomon wrote: ***“The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun. Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us”*** (Eccl. 1:9-10).

The *woke* mentality was alive and well in the ancient past – turning everything upside down – just as is being done today. Many Bible accounts of ancient history is like watching current events on TV. It was prevalent in

Isaiah's day, years before the time of Christ. By inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Isaiah wrote these words: **"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! ... Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel"** (Isa. 5:20-21,24).

Jesus warned about such people and their destructive works when he said, **"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire"** (Matt. 7:15-19).

Evil abounds in the world. There has never been a generation when it didn't. Evil is defined as that which is "profoundly immoral and wicked." The Old Testament word for "evil" is found 663 times. It is translated "evil" 442 times, "wicked" or "wickedness" 84 times, and by various other words such as hurt, harm, bad, trouble, grievous, etc.

Wickedness was so routine in the days of Noah that we read in Genesis 6:5: **"God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."** Sounds like the progressives, liberals, elites, woke crowd of today doesn't it? Instead of respect, holiness, and godliness, we find people whose every thought is how they can promote themselves and take advantage of others.

Micah 2:1 says, **"Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practise it, because it is in the power of their hand."** Described here are those who lie awake at night scheming what they will do the next day. Proverbs 4:14-19 continues the point, **"Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away. For they sleep not, except they have done mischief; and their sleep is taken away, unless they cause some to fall. For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence. But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble."** Psalm 36:4, **"He deviseth mischief upon his bed; he setteth himself in a way that is not good; he abhorreth not evil."** Isaiah 57:20, **"the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt."** Proverbs 1:16, **"For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood."**

The devil approached Eve in the garden of Eden with the woke mentality. God had given Adam and Eve freedom to eat of every tree in the garden with but one exception. **"But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons"** (Gen. 3:3-7).

The devil LIED! He added one tiny word to God's instructions. God said they would die. The devil said they would NOT die. Eve was deceived by satan (1 Tim. 2:14) that there was another way, something better than God's way. Friend, there is nothing better than God's instructions! He made us. He knows what is best for us. He wants to keep us safe from sin's condemnation and eternal punishment. God does not want anyone to be lost and confined to that place of everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels (2 Peter 3:9; Matt. 25:41). But that's exactly where following the woke crowd and mentality will lead you. It's everything opposite of truth and soberness. **Don't fall for it! ■**

Service Times - Sunday: 9:00 & 10:00 AM; 6:00 PM - Wednesday: 7:00 PM

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