

Motives and Attitudes about Behavior

Observations about the behavior of various early Christians:

- The letters of the New Testament were written to Christians, not the general population.
- The verb tenses and logic surrounding the lists of bad behaviors suggest that
 - The faithful had not overcome these behaviors completely
 - 1 Corinthians 3:3
 - 1 Corinthians 5:1
 - 1 Corinthians 6:1
 - 2 Corinthians 7:1
 - Galatians 5:16
 - Ephesians 4:17
 - Ephesians 5:6
 - Colossians 3:5 – 9
 - James 4:1 – 6
 - James 5:1 – 6
 - Some were rationalizing that bad behavior as inevitable or excusable
 - 1 Corinthians 3:16 – 23
 - 1 Corinthians 5:2
 - 1 Corinthians 10:13
 - Philippians 4:18
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:6
 - 2 Timothy 3:1 – 7
 - James 1:13 – 22
 - 2 Peter 2:18 – 22
- The rationale for good behavior was not to avoid punishment but
 - Romans 3:19 – 26
 - Romans 6:11 – 18
 - Romans 12:1 – 2
 - Romans 13:1 – 7
 - 1 Corinthians 5:6 – 8
 - 1 Corinthians 6:11 – 20
 - 1 Corinthians 9:27
 - Galatians 5:22
 - Galatians 6:8
 - Ephesians 4:20 – 24
 - Ephesians 5:11 – 17
 - Colossians 3:1 – 2
 - 1 Thessalonians 1 – 8
 - Titus 3:1 – 8
 - Hebrews 2:14 – 15
 - James 1:21
 - James 3:13 – 18
 - 1 Peter 1:13 – 19
 - 1 Peter 2:1 – 5
 - 1 Peter 2:11 – 12
 - 2 Peter 2:9