



FRANKLIN ROAD

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NEWSLETTER

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NAUGHTY OR NICE?



THE SECULAR CHRISTMAS SONG “SANTA CLAUSE IS COMING TO TOWN” WARNS CHILDREN THAT SANTA CLAUSE IS MAKING AND LIST AND CHECKING IT TWICE; AND HE’S GOIN’ TO FIND OUT WHO’S NAUGHTY AND NICE SO YOU BETTER BE GOOD FOR GOODNESS SAKE. ACTUALLY ALMOST NONE OF THAT IS TRUE. THOUGH THERE MAY BE AN HISTORICAL KRIS KRINGLE, HE WOULD NOT BE OMNIPOTENT AND COULD NOT GIVE EVERY CHILD PRESENTS. FURTHERMORE, TO BE GOOD SIMPLY FOR GOODNESS SAKE IS HUMANISTIC AND SELFISH.

HOWEVER GOD’S WORD DOES GIVE US LISTS OF NAUGHTY AND NICE CHARACTERISTICS.

NICE

NOW THE DEEDS OF THE FLESH ARE EVIDENT, WHICH ARE: IMMORALITY, IMPURITY, SENSUALITY, ²⁰IDOLATRY, SORCERY, ENMITIES, STRIFE, JEALOUSY, OUTBURSTS OF ANGER, DISPUTES, DISSENSIONS, FACTIONS, ²¹ENVYING, DRUNKENNESS, CAROUSING, AND THINGS LIKE THESE, OF WHICH I FOREWARN YOU, JUST AS I HAVE FOREWARNED YOU, THAT THOSE WHO PRACTICE SUCH THINGS WILL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

- GALATIANS 5:19-21

LET NO UNWHOLESOME WORD PROCEED FROM YOUR MOUTH, BUT ONLY SUCH A WORD AS IS GOOD FOR EDIFICATION ACCORDING TO THE NEED OF THE MOMENT, SO THAT IT WILL GIVE GRACE TO THOSE WHO HEAR. ³⁰DO NOT GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD, BY WHOM YOU WERE SEALED FOR THE DAY OF REDEMPTION.

- EPHESIANS 4:29

NAUGHTY

BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, ²³GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL; AGAINST SUCH THINGS THERE IS NO LAW.

- GALATIANS 5:22-23

THEREFORE, LAYING ASIDE FALSEHOOD, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE OF YOU WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, FOR WE ARE MEMBERS OF ONE ANOTHER. ²⁶BE ANGRY, AND YET DO NOT SIN; DO NOT LET THE SUN GO DOWN ON YOUR ANGER, ²⁷AND DO NOT GIVE THE DEVIL AN OPPORTUNITY. ²⁸HE WHO STEALS MUST STEAL NO LONGER; BUT RATHER HE MUST LABOR, PERFORMING WITH HIS OWN HANDS WHAT IS GOOD, SO THAT HE WILL HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE WITH ONE WHO HAS NEED.

- EPHESIANS 4:25 -28

OUR MOTIVATION FOR DOING RIGHT IS NOT BECAUSE SANTA’S COMING BUT BECAUSE THE SAVIOR IS WATCHING.

CHRIST WANTS US WALK IN OBEDIENCE TO HIM AND HIS WORD. BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT JESUS IS COMING JOHN WRITES, “AND EVERYONE THAT HAS THIS HOPE FIXED ON HIM PURIFIES HIMSELF, JUST AS HE IS PURE.” (1 JOHN 3:3).

LOOKING UP,
PASTOR CHUCK CIRCLE