

*My question is about Ephesians which states nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. What I'm wondering is how is joking out of place defined? The only humor I find funny is truly crude comedy shows like Wilfred or just listening to stand up. I have tried to like Christian comedy but I just don't find it funny. I love Jesus more than anything and have changed my taste in music from Gangster Rap to Gospel and contemporary Christian music with some Christian rap.*

*What I'm wondering is can I still watch comedy shows? If they speak badly about Christ I turn it off but I do find most of the stuff funny. It's really bothering me because comedy is something I really enjoy and relieves stress from the world. Thank you to reading this sorry. God Bless*

The Ephesian church was located in a godless, pagan area. The apostle Paul encouraged the faithful to live in another manner. The apostle John said something similar: Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him (1 Jn 2:15).

When the reprobate jokes, it is often: callous, filthy or undignified (2 Cor. 13:3–5, Heb. 6:7, 8). As strangers and pilgrims (1 Pe 2:11) believers do not always fit in in the culture. The masses are evil (Ex 23:2) and few are going to heaven (Mt 7:14). The Christian is to be salt and light (Mt 5:13-16). Salt stings and the light of truth is often painful.

Paul wrote: All things are lawful; but not all things are expedient (1 Co 10:23). The eye gate and ear gate can be filled with rubbish or with things which edify. Do not be misled: bad company corrupts good character (1 Co 15:33).

Men are given a sense of humor by God. The Holy Spirit will let the believer know what is acceptable and what is inappropriate (Phil 4:8, Jas 4:17). When one hardens his heart; however (Ex 8:32), God hardens it further and his fate is sealed (Ex 9:12, Ro 1:28). Remain close the Holy Spirit to discern his desires (Jn 15:4).

God makes individuals unique. The world would be a boring place if everyone were the same. Laughter is a gift from God (Jb 8:21) for which the believer can be thankful (Ro 12:15). At any given time a church is filled with mourners *and* with those who rejoice. Solomon wrote: a time to weep, and a time to laugh (Ec 3:4) and better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting (Eccl 7:2). All Christians experience joy and laughter in the end (Ps 126:5, Re 21:4).