



Free Chapel
Alberton AGF



Wake up O Sleeper
and arise from the Dead







WOOLWORTHS







As much as you believe that these people are doing these **things purposefully**, in **99%** of the case they are not!



Sleepwalking is a disorder that occurs when people walk or do another activity **while they are still asleep**.

When people sleepwalk, they may sit up and **look as though they are awake when they are actually asleep**. They may get up and walk around, or do complex activities such as moving furniture, going to the bathroom, and dressing or undressing. Some people even drive a car while they are asleep.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmedhealth/PMH0001811/>

1 John 1:5-7 (NIV1984)

*⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: **God is light**; in him there is **no darkness at all.** ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. ⁷ **But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.***





**So Walking in the Light represents a person who is
AWAKE to God's purpose.**

**Walking in darkness represents a person who is
SLEEP WALKING. – SPIRITUALLY ASLEEP**

**“Wake up, O sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”
Ephesians 5:14**



FAST, DEADLY - DOOM







Wake Up!



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References

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2. Gavin Sharples - www.gavinsharples.co.za/
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Audio (WMA) and text (PDF) ministry

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Wake Up O' Sleeper Arise from the Dead

Ephesians 5:1-21

Ever had a taxi stop right in front of you or cut in front of you and your blood pressure shoots through the roof.

Or what about people who stand in line to buy lotto tickets, oblivious to **court orders for the Lotto to stop wasting, hoarding and not paying money to charities** and orphanages that are about to close down.

You shake your head and imagine yourself slapping them because they are thick.

You stand in line at Woolies with other frustrated shoppers for what seems like an eternity.

You suddenly become a person suffering from Tourette syndrome when almost every person, who finally gets to the front of the line, **stands there unconsciously not noticing the teller signaling "*next customer please!*"**

You now imagine having a fishing rod so you can reach over and **snap-slap this idiot** and shout,

"Wake up, you moron!"

What about moviegoers who only decide what they want to see **when they get to the front of the queue!?**

Or people who buy milk and bread and pay with a credit card?

Or people, who **year after year**, vote for a corrupt, inept, incompetent, self-serving, nepotistic, buddy-employing government who mess up health-care, education, housing, sanitation services and service delivery and appoint incompetent friends as police commissioners who get sent to jail, **but they will vote for that same crowd every year?!**

Or What About – the person you know is a Christian but just never seem to have victory in any situation.

Or the Christian – that keeps going back to the sin that has separated them from God.



..... as much as you believe that these people are doing these **things purposefully**, in **99%** of the case they are not!

They are in fact, for the most part, unconscious, or sleepwalking if you will.

The Bible is very clear on the topic for Christians – you either walk in the light as He (God) is in the Light or you walk in darkness in the futility of your mind.

1 John 1:5-7

*⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: **God is light**; in him there is **no darkness** at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. ⁷ **But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.***

So Walking in the Light represents a person who is **AWAKE** to God's purpose.

Walking in darkness represents a person who is **SLEEP WALKING. – SPIRITUALLY ASLEEP**

The Bible persuades us to:

“Wake up, O sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

We have to spiritually awake.

This verse is often communicated to non-believers.

BUT! Paul wrote this to the Christians in Ephesus.

It is perfectly possible for a **good, faithful, loyal church member to be spiritually asleep**—and this is likened to being in a spiritual state that parallels natural sleep.

When your husband, your wife, your child, your relative, your friend or you go to sleep tonight, the fact that you are unconscious and out of the running for a while is not bothering you.

You know that normally you will wake up again.

You are not dead, but you are cut off from your environment, all but that which is reflex--breathing and a few other things.

Likewise it is possible to be a Christian, to be in the church and yet be asleep spiritually.

Then you have to be wakened suddenly.

You will probably be ashamed of yourself, angry with yourself, frustrated and disconcerted and say,

"What's the matter with me? All this time I was almost awake, but not quite."

The taxi driver doesn't wake up and consciously say "***how can I annoy the public today?***"

He does not have a strategic initiative to roll out misery today.

He just doesn't give you a conscious thought.

For him you do not exist.

He is all about himself, inwardly focused and oblivious to anyone else existing on planet earth except his personal immediate moneymaking self.

And we are sometimes exactly like that because we are spiritually asleep.

It is all about me, inwardly focused and oblivious to anyone else existing on planet earth except my personal immediate self.

The shopper disappears into her own world, the moviegoers are engrossed in their own conversation judging and talking about other people and what they are wearing, what they look like etc.

People purchase Lotto tickets without a thought about charity or where the money goes, all they focus on is, ***"did I - will I - can I - win a jackpot?"***

And how will I spend the money?

They are in a "me", "I", "greed", "dream" mode.

They are FOCUSED ON SELF.

They are Sleep Walking

And a sad situation for the church is that even if you tell them, or make them aware, they may register for a while but then as quick as a flash **fall back into their focused world.**

They are Spiritually Asleep

It's almost like waking a sleep walking child up, walking him to bed only to be told by them the next morning that they don't know how they got there.

For the most part, **people are somnambulists.**

They sleep walk.

They **look** and act awake, they even **talk and interact**, but they are all really fast asleep to life and reality, to their actions and how they impact on others.

You see! Sleep is a comfortable, unaccountable, careless, hide-out state of being.

Christians actually prefer to be spiritually asleep.

Because it is a **comfortable, unaccountable, careless, hide-out state of being.**

People even eat unconsciously;

Because if they woke up and really looked at what **rubbish** they ate and what it really does to their health, attitude and body, they may have to do something about it.

The rubbish is called “take-away’s” because that's exactly what it does; **it takes away your money, your waistline and your health.**

People know how to be the best at what they do.

They know what it takes.

They know but they sleep walk through their life **making mistakes, upsetting people and performing to the bare minimum.**

When they get chastised, just like the sleepwalking child, **they get irritated for being disturbed, have a bad attitude and go straight back to sleep.**

You can trace most if not all our problems, disputes, failed relationships and much more, on the fact that people were just not aware, took no note, did not care and did the exact opposite to what they should have done.

Next time you call someone “thick” or “un cool”, and you lose your cool;

Try to stop and realize that **they're just unconscious. They are asleep.**

You see the more **aware** we are of how **unaware** people are, the more we can stress less and anticipate what they may or may not do.

It is a sad thing to see sleepwalkers walking through life from a conscious point of view.

Now just add a cell phone while driving, a lost temper, poor self image, ego issues, peer pressure, image, feelings of inferiority, and you have **people who are living in a constant nightmare because they are spiritually asleep.**

AND YOU CAN WARN THEM!

But watch in amazement how people hit their children, and are then shocked when their kids solve all their problems with violence.

Witness how tobacco companies place horrific warnings on their products about the harm they do to their customers and, - cigarette sales actually increase.

They grow!

Do you get this?

Now that warnings have been put on the packages and the advertising has been banned, they actually sell more cigarettes.

Observed that alcohol is present in almost 72% of all violent crimes and in the majority of serious motor vehicle accidents.

It is the major cause of broken homes, abused children and rape and **yet people drink more** - and they ban cigarette advertising and smoking?

Go Figure!

It's really funny, BUT ALSO SAD, to be awake and watch how people sleepwalk themselves into misery.

See how “Christians” have no joy, no satisfaction, no blessing – now you understand – they are spiritually asleep.

So my friends, today is all about waking up!

Wake up to your actions and how they affect others!

Wake up to your words and deeds!

Wake up to your relationships; they are based on what you consciously put into them!

Wake up and walk in the light as He is in the light!

Wake up! Wake up! Wake up!

Wake up to what God wants for you.