



# IN EPHESIANS

## CHRIST

### Lesson #39 (Update)

#### Walking in Love

(Ephesians 5:1-7)

**IMPORTANT “Therefore’s”** 11x in chapters 4-6.

- **THEREFORE THIS IS HOW YOU ARE LIVE!**
- (Ephesians 5:1) **THEREFORE** walk worthy of your calling.

#### Walking As A Christian

- The Christian life is likened to a walk. Walk is just another word for “live” but with a bit more meaning.
- “to walk” is περιπατέω (peripateo) and it means “to make one’s way, to progress, to live, to regulate one’s life, to conduct one’s self, to behave, to live day-by-day.
- “to walk” signifies:
  - ❶ A voluntary act.
  - ❷ A steady advance toward a GOAL - see Ephesians 4:13.
  - ❸ A direction or a pursuit. . διώκω dioko {dee-o'-ko} - “to run swiftly in order to catch someone or something”; “to seek after eagerly, earnestly to acquire”
    - Holy living in the fear of God. (Hebrews 12:14; 2 Cor 7:1)
    - Peace with all men, especially your brothers and sisters. (Hebrews 12:14; Romans 14:19; 1 Peter 3:11)
    - Agape love for our brothers and sisters and our enemies. (1 Corinthians 14:1; Matthew 5:44)
    - Those things that edify one another. (Romans 14:19; 15:2; Eph 4:29)
    - The good for all. (1 Thessalonians 5:15)
    - Righteousness (1 Tim 6:11; Matthew 5:6; 6:33; Rom 10:3)
    - Godliness (1 Timothy 6:11; 1 Timothy 4:7-8; Titus 2:12)
    - Faith (1 Timothy 6:11; Luke 17:5; Acts 16:5)
    - Gentleness (1 Timothy 6:11; Ephesians 4:2; Philippians 4:5)

➤ Endurance/Perseverance/Patience (1 Timothy 6:11; **Matt 10:22**; 13:21; 24:13; Mark 13:13)

#### ❹ A progress

- “Walking” is something first LEARNED (i.e. military) and then done without effort.
- In Matthew 7:13-14, Christ taught that there was a “narrow gate” to enter into **and** a “difficult way” to “walk”.
  - ➔ To “ways” or “walks” of life:
    - ★ The broad way that leads to destruction.
    - ☆ The narrow way that leads to life.
- Paul uses this concept of “walking” in many of his letters:
  - ➔ “we also should walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4)
  - ➔ “there is no condemnation to those . . . who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit” (Rom 8:1, 4)
  - ➔ “Let us walk properly . . .” Romans 13:13
  - ➔ “We walk by faith, not by sight.” 2 Corinthians 5:7
  - ➔ “Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh.” (Galatians 5:16)
  - ➔ “If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.” (Gal 5:25)
  - ➔ We were saved unto good works “which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10)
  - ➔ “...walk worthy” of your calling. (Ephesians 4:1)
  - ➔ “you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles” (Eph 4:17)
  - ➔ “Walk as children of light.” (Ephesians 5:8)
  - ➔ “Walk circumspectly.” (Ephesians 5:15)
  - ➔ “As you have received Christ . . . walk in Him.” (Colossians 2:6)
  - ➔ Paul exhorted the Thessalonians how to walk and to please God. (1 Thessalonians 4:1)

#### Imitate God (Ephesians 5:1)

- “to imitate” is the word μιμητής mimetes {mim-ay-tace} and it means to “mimic” - “to copy specific characteristics of another person”. PRESENT TENSE-MIDDLE VOICE-IMPERATIVE MOOD.
- (1 John 2:6) Those who have been born-again are obligated to “walk **just as** He (Christ) walked.” (See 1 Peter 2:21; 1 John 1:6-7)
- (1 Peter 1:13-16) As obedient children we are “to be holy in all our conduct” - just as God is holy.
- The more we mature the more we find how far short we fall in this command. Therefore, we need to pray for strength as we learned in praying Ephesians 3:14-21 and Colossians 1:9-11.

## Walk in Love (Ephesians 5:2)

- “walk in love” - PRESENT TENSE-ACTIVE VOICE-IMPERATIVE MOOD.
- The STANDARD and EXAMPLE: “**as** Christ has loved us and gave Himself” – John 13:34-35
  - His love was demonstrated in giving His life for His friends. (John 15:13-14; 10:18)
  - (1 John 3:16) Biblical love is sacrificial-giving love. It is giving our lives to the brethren - **just as** Christ **gave Himself** for us! (Gal 1:4; 2:20; Titus 2:14) Biblical love denies self and serves others. (Matthew 20:28; John 13:1-17)
  - (1 John 3:18) Biblical love loves not in words but in deed and in truth.
  - His love was demonstrated in his forgiveness. Forgiveness is the supreme evidence of “walking in love”. (Eph 4:32; Col 3:13)
    - ♥ If Christ forgave us of ALL our many sins, we can easily forgive our brothers and sisters their sins against us.
    - ♥ If Christ gave Himself, in love, when we were still sinners, then we can love our enemies. (Rom 5:10; Col 1:21; )
    - ♥ If Christ can forgive us unconditionally, then our forgiveness and love must be unconditional. (1 John 2:12; Isaiah 43:25)
  - (1 Corinthians 13:4-8) Paul, moved by the Holy Spirit, describes Biblical love.
  - (1 Peter 4:8) Our love must be “fervent” -- ἐκτενής ektenes {ek-ten-ace'} and means “to stretch out” – it has the idea of a runner “stretching out at the finish line to win the race” – It says, love the brethren with ALL you have!
  - (1 John 3:14-15) If we do not love the brethren, then we are not born again. (1 John 5:1-2; 4:7-8, 12)

## DO NOT WALK (Ephesians 5:3-5)

- With today’s world’s obsession with sex and immorality, Paul’s warning in these verses need to be taken serious.
- In verses 3-4 Paul lists those sins (mostly sexually immoral) which will keep one OUT of the kingdom of God. (See also **Galatians 5:19-21**; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10)
  - Fornication: πορνεία porneia {por-ni'-ah} - adultery, fornication, homosexuality, intercourse outside of marriage, intercourse with a divorced man/woman, etc.
  - All uncleanness/impurity - contrast with 1 John 3:3

➤ Covetousness/Greed

## LET IT NOT EVEN BE NAMED AMONG YOU, AS FITTING FOR SAINTS

- Foolish/vulgar talk
- RATHER there should be MUCH giving of thanks! See 1 Thess 5:18; Philippians 4:6; Psalm 107:21-22
- In Colossians 3:5; Paul commands that we “**put to death**” these kind of sins.
- Notice that these sins include how we speak and what we do.

## FOR THIS YOU KNOW NO SEXUALLY IMMORAL PERSON WILL BE ALLOWED INTO HEAVEN!

See also Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Revelation 21:8; 22:15

## Do Not Be Deceived (Ephesians 5:6)

- NONE of the sins in verses 3-5 are fitting for saints.
- (Ephesians 5:6) **LET NO ONE DECEIVE YOU WITH EMPTY WORDS.**
  - This was written as a warning to believers!!!**
- **DO NOT BE DECEIVED:** Colossians 2:4, 8
- Jude warned his readers about “ungodly men” who crept in **unnoticed** who turned the grace of God into **lewdness!** (Jude 4)
- The world’s obsession with sex has made its way into the churches of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. What once was “not fitting for saints” is now accepted or ignored.
- Throughout all of church history the church has compromised and followed the way of the world rather than following and clinging to the **written** Word of God.

## Final Exhortation (Ephesians 5:7)

- **DO NOT BE PARTAKERS WITH THEM.**

## Walking As a Disciple of Christ

- ① IMITATE GOD. (Ephesians 5:1; 1 Corinthians 11:1)
- ② Be holy in all that we do. (1 Peter 1:13-16)
- ③ Love each other fervently. (1 Peter 4:8; 1 John 3:16-18; 4:11)
- ④ Do not be conformed to the world, but be transformed by the renewing of our minds. (Romans 12:1-2)

