



# IN EPHESIANS

## CHRIST

### Lesson #40

### Walking in the Light

(Ephesians 5:8-17)

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

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

#### Therefore . . . Walk

- “to walk” gives the idea of **progress** and a **direction**.
- “to follow” as in Luke 9:23 and John 10:27 shows us that we are “walk just as He walked.” (1 John 2:6)
- In the Christian life there is a narrow gate to enter and a difficult way to walk that leads to life. (Matthew 7:13-14)

#### Be Imitators of God (Ephesians 5:1)

- We are **commanded** (IMPERATIVE MOOD) to *always* (PRESENT TENSE) “mimic” (imitate; acts like; be like) GOD.

#### Walk in Love, As Christ (Ephesians 5:2)

- The first way to imitate God is to love **as** Christ has loved us **and** gave Himself for us!
  - ♥ Biblical love **denies** self and lives to serve God and others – just as Christ! (Matthew 20:28; Luke 9:23; Philippians 2:5-8)
  - ♥ Biblical love **forgives** just as we have been forgiven. (Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 1:13)
  - ♥ Biblical loves **unconditionally**. (1 John 2:12; Isaiah 43:25)
  - ♥ Our love for each other is to be **fervent**. (1 Peter 4:8)
- ✗ **WARNING:** If we do not love our brothers and sisters, then we are not born-again! (1 John 3:14-15)

#### DO NOT Walk as the World (Ephesians 5:3-5)

- **WARNINGS:** 1 Corinthians 6;; Galatians 5;; Revelation 21:8

#### DO NOT Be Deceived (Ephesians 5:6)

- Many are being deceived today! We test **everything** and **everyone** by the **written** Word of God. (1 Thessalonians 5:21; 1 John 4:1; Isaiah 8:20) See Colossians 2:8; 2 Peter 2:1-2.

#### DO NOT Be Partakers (Ephesians 5:7)

#### WALK as Children of Light (Ephesians 5:8-10)

- (v. 8) The verbs are very important!
  - “you **were** . . .” PAST TENSE. Something you **were** but are not now!
  - “you **are** . . .” PRESENT TENSE. Something you NOW **are**.
- “walk” – PRESENT, ACTIVE, IMPERATIVE.
- ★ “in the Lord” – We, as Christians, must constantly remind ourselves that we are “in Christ”.
- ☆ Also the missing prepositions (in; of) are important. We were NOT IN DARKNESS but WE DARKNESS ITSELF!! We are NOT IN THE LIGHT but WE ARE LIGHT!
- ★ The Holy Spirit moved Paul to write a CLEAR CONTRAST – BLACK and WHITE; DARK and LIGHT.
- (John 8:12; Matthew 5:14-16) Just as Christ was/is “the Light of the World” **we** are NOW “the light of the World”!
- (Philippians 2:15) We suppose to be shining lights in the world. Again, you cannot hide light in the midst of darkness.
- (v. 9) The fruit of the Spirit (of walking in the light). Light produces fruit; darkness does not.
  - **ALL goodness.** Goodness is LOVE in action. See 1 Thessalonians 5:15; 1 John 3:18; Romans 2:6-7; Gal 6:9-10; John 5:28-29.
  - **ALL righteousness.** Living (walking) in righteous character before God and man. Doing what is RIGHT in God’s eyes. (Rom 6:13; 1 Tim 6:13; 1 John 2:29; 3:6-9; Titus 2:12-14; Acts 10:35)
  - **ALL truth.** God’s Word is TRUTH. Fruit of walking in light is walking in conformity to the **written** Word of God. (John 17:17; Psalm 119:151-152, 160) See 2 John 4; 3 John 3-4
    - ★ Those who do truth come to the light. Those who love evil stay away from the light. (John 3:20-21)

- (v. 10) Are to live our lives “fully pleasing” (acceptable) to the Lord. (Colossians 1:9-11; Hebrews 13:20-21; **1 Thessalonians 4:1**; 2 Timothy 2:3-4; Hebrews 11:5; **1 John 3:22**)
- To walk (live) in the light means to walk (live) before God hiding nothing! Knowing He sees everything. (Hebrews 4:13)
- (1 John 1:6-7) Read these verses carefully.

### **DO NOT Fellowship with Darkness** (Ephesians 5:11-13)

- (2 Corinthians 6:14) A Christian has NO COMMUNION/FELLOWSHIP with DARKNESS!!
- We are WARNED out the deeds of the flesh:
  - Do not be partakers. (v. 7; 1 Cor 15:33)
  - Have no fellowship. (v. 11)
  - Expose it. (v. 11) **BY SHINING AS LIGHT!**
- LIGHT will naturally expose evil!

### **THEREFORE Walk Circumspectly** (Ephesians 5:14-17)

- “circumspectly” means walking **carefully, exactly, purposely**.
- One walks wisely when they walk (live; do) according to the Word of God; a FOOL ignores the Word of God. (Matthew 7:24-29)
- (v. 16) A wise person knows that life (time, days, hours, minutes) is a gift of God. It is God who gives life and takes life. (Acts 17:25; Job 12:10). Therefore, a wise person “redeems the time” he/she is given. (Ecclesiastes 9:10; Colossians 3:17, 23; **Galatians 6:10**)
- (v. 16) A wise person walks (lives) circumspectly because he/she knows that the days (times) we live are EVIL. The **whole world** lies under the influence of the evil/wicked one. (1 John 5:19)

#### ★ THEREFORE . . .

- ☆ (v. 14) **WAKE UP!** Idleness leads to so many others sins.
  - ★ (Romans 13:11-14) Let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly.
  - ★ (1 Cor 15:34) Awake to righteousness, and do not sin.
  - ★ (1 Thess 5:6-8) Let us not sleep, but let us watch and be sober.
- ☆ (v. 17) **DO NOT BE FOOLS! USE YOUR MIND!**
  - ★ Understand what the will of the Lord is!
  - ★ (Romans 12:1-2) Our minds must be RENEWED by the written Word of God.

- ★ (Colossians 1:9-11) We pray to be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, **in order that** we may walk worthy of the Lord, **fully pleasing** Him, being **fruitful** in every **good** work and **increasing** in the knowledge of Him.
- ★ (Matthew 7:21; 12:50; 1 John 2:17) Those who do the will of God go to heaven, are in the family of God, and live forever.

### **DOING (OBEYING) the WORD**

- Walk worthy of our calling. (Ephesians 4:1)
- Walk in love as Christ has loved us. (Ephesians 5:2; John 13:34-35)
- Walk as children of light. (Ephesians 5:8) Showing forth the fruit of all righteousness, all goodness, and all truth. (Ephesians 5:9)
- Walk wisely, redeeming the time, learning and do the will of God. (Ephesians 5:15-17)

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