

Walking In Christ

Ephesians 5:1-21

“Walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called.” (4:1)

- ▶ We have been called to be:
 - Holy and without blemish. 1:4
 - Sons by Jesus Christ unto himself. 1:5
 - Fellow citizens with the saints. 2:19
 - Members of the household of God. 2:19
 - A holy temple in the Lord. 2:21
 - Fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ. 3:6

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What sort of “walk” is worthy of such a calling?

- ▶ So far we have seen that it is one in which we are ...
 - 1) “Walking Together In Unity” Ephesians 4:1–16
 - 2) “Walking In Truth And Holiness” Ephesians 4:17–32

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“Walk” used 6 times in Ephesians, emphasizing our life in Christ.

- a. Good works of God. 2:10.
- b. Worthily of our calling. 4:1 (Colossians 1:9–12).
- c. No longer as Gentiles (convinced of the futility of living in sin). 4:17.

Ephesians 5:1–21 – Practical applications of being new people in Christ. (5:2; 5:8; 5:15)

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Walk in ...

- ▶ **Love.** Ephesians 5:1-2
 - Imitate Christ in sacrifice and purity to please God and be accepted.
- ▶ **Light.** Ephesians 5:3-14
 - Reject self-indulgence and bear the fruit of the Spirit
- ▶ **Wisdom.** Ephesians 5:15-21
 - Careful in all things to do the will of God (time, worship, thanks)

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Walk in Love ... Ephesians 5:1–2

Verse 1-2

- ▶ Imitate God as dear children. 5:1 (cf. 1 John 4:7-11, 19-21)
- ▶ As Christ loved us. 5:2; John 3:16; 1 John 3:16
 - Gave Himself for us. cf. Galatians 2:20
 - An offering and a sacrifice.
 - A sweet-smelling aroma: God’s acceptance. cf. Genesis 8:21; Leviticus 1:9 (Isaiah 53:11; 2 Corinthians 5:21)

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Walk in Light ... Ephesians 5:3-14

Verse 3 Not in self-indulgence.

- **Fornication:** Sexual immorality
cf. 1 Corinthians 6:18; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-6
- **All uncleanness:** Moral impurity
 - "impurity of lustful, luxurious, profligate living" ... impure motives
- **Covetousness:** Greedy desire
- **Not even named among you ... saints (holy ones) ... rid of any suspicion.**
 - Wholly unknown among you (Barnes)

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Walk in Light ... Ephesians 5:3-14

Verse 4 NEITHER ...

- ▶ **Filthiness:** Obscenity (Vine) Shame, Disgrace
- ▶ **Foolish talking:** Moronic language, Proverbs 26:18-19 (25:11)
- ▶ **Coarse jesting:** Off color humor
 - "Well-turned phrase"; "ready at repartee"
 - Double entendre, euphemisms, etc.
- ▶ **Not fitting** (proper, propriety)
- ▶ **Rather:** Give thanks (cf. verse 20; cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:18)

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Ephesians 5:5-7

No Inheritance in the Kingdom of God

Do not be deceived by empty words!

- ▶ **The self-indulgent:**
 - Fornicator. 5:3
 - Unclean person. 5:3
 - Covetous (idolater). 5:3
 - Unclean / Profane. 5:4
- ▶ **Reasons to abstain:**
 - No inheritance. 5:5 (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
 - Wrath of God is on the disobedient. 5:6; (Romans 1:18, 32)
 - No fellowship with sin. 5:7

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Ephesians 5:8-14

Bear Fruit as Children of Light

- ▶ Follow Christ. 5:8; John 8:12; 12:35-36
 - Do not be in darkness.
 - Live as children of light.
- ▶ **Fruit of the Spirit. 5:9**
 - **Goodness:** Uprightness of heart and life. (Romans 15:14)
 - **Righteousness:** Integrity. (4:24)
 - **Truth:** Reality, certainty; God's word. (John 17:17)

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Ephesians 5:8-14

Bear Fruit as Children of Light

- ▶ Follow Christ. 5:8; John 8:12; 12:35-36
- ▶ Bear fruit of the Spirit. 5:9
- ▶ Prove what is pleasing to God. 5:10
 - Living a righteous life puts God to the test and shows that He is pleased. Romans 12:2 (Malachi 3:10); Ephesians 3:20

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Ephesians 5:8-14

Bear Fruit as Children of Light

- ▶ Follow Christ. 5:8; John 8:12
 - ▶ Bear fruit of the Spirit. 5:9
 - ▶ Acceptable to God. 5:10
 - ▶ Have no fellowship (cf. verse 7) with works of darkness. 5:11-12
 - "together," a united sharing. cf. 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
 - Expose them (reprove). 5:11
 - "Show how wrong they are" (CEV)
 - Convict, convince, tell a fault
 - Call to account, rebuke
 - Shamefulness of sin. 5:12
- Romans 13:12-14; 1 Corinthians 15:33; 2 John 9-11

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Ephesians 5:8-14**Bear Fruit
as Children
of Light**

- ▶ Follow Christ, 5:8; John 8:12
- ▶ Bear fruit of the Spirit, 5:9
- ▶ Acceptable to God, 5:10
- ▶ Have no fellowship with works of darkness, 5:11-12
- ▶ All exposed by the light. 5:13
 - Light overwhelms the darkness. (John 3:19-21)
 - Warning against apathy. (Romans 13:11)
 - Call to repentance. (Acts 26:18-20)

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Walk in Wisdom ... Ephesians 5:15-21

Verses 15-16 – Walk carefully. (exactly, looking on all sides) (cf. 1 Corinthians 10:12; 1 Peter 5:8)

- Be careful. James 3:13-18
- Redeeming time. (Making the most of the season of opportunity. cf. Galatians 6:10) Colossians 4:5
- Life has “*evil days*.” (Cannot neglect to watch!) Ephesians 6:13; James 4:14-15; cf. Ecclesiastes 12:1; 11:8

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Walk in Wisdom ... Ephesians 5:15-21

“Wherefore be ye not foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” 5:17 (3:3-4)

- ▶ Do not be filled with wine. 5:18
 - Riot (waste and excess). 1 Peter 4:4
- ▶ Filled with the Spirit; lit., “to cram” with, replete, fully under influence of. cf. Colossians 3:16

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Walk in Wisdom ... Ephesians 5:15-21

- ▶ Those who are filled with the Spirit of God will ... (5:19-21)
 - Speak to one another in song.
 - Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs – making melody in their hearts to the Lord.
 - Give thanks always for all things in the name of Christ, thereby honoring His name. cf. verse 4; cf. Colossians 3:17
 - Submit to one another in the fear of God. cf. Philippians 2:3; 1 Peter 5:5

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