

# Walking in Love, Light, and Wisdom



## READ IT:

<sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; <sup>2</sup> and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

<sup>3</sup> But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; <sup>4</sup> and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. <sup>5</sup> For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

<sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup> Therefore do not be partakers with them; <sup>8</sup> for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the Light *consists* in all goodness and righteousness and truth), <sup>10</sup> trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; <sup>12</sup> for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. <sup>13</sup> But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. <sup>14</sup> For this reason it says,

“Awake, sleeper,  
And arise from the dead,  
And Christ will shine on you.”

<sup>15</sup> Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of your time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup> And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; <sup>20</sup> always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; <sup>21</sup> and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

### EPHESIANS 5:1-21

**The main point:** Paul explains what is involved in becoming imitators of God.



## EXAMINE IT:

**Observation**—What do I see?

- Any repeated words? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who is the subject? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who is the object? \_\_\_\_\_
- What are the action verbs? \_\_\_\_\_
- What are the conjunctions? \_\_\_\_\_

- Any purpose clauses (“so that”)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Any commands? \_\_\_\_\_



## OUTLINE IT:

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**Structure/Bones**—What are the important markers?

A. Walk in *love*. (vv.1-7)

<sup>1</sup>Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; <sup>2</sup>and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

<sup>3</sup>But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; <sup>4</sup>and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. <sup>5</sup>For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

<sup>6</sup>Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup>Therefore do not be partakers with them;

B. Walk as *light*. (vv.8-14)

<sup>8</sup>for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of the Light *consists* in all goodness and righteousness and truth), <sup>10</sup>trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; <sup>12</sup>for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. <sup>13</sup>But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. <sup>14</sup>For this reason it says,

“Awake, sleeper,  
And arise from the dead,  
And Christ will shine on you.”

C. Walk as *wise*. (vv.15-21)

<sup>15</sup>Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, <sup>16</sup>making the most of your time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup>So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup>And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup>speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; <sup>20</sup>always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; <sup>21</sup>and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.



## UNDERSTAND IT:

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**Interpretation**—What does it mean?

*Key words and theological and practical uses*

What are the key words and why do they matter?

What is the key doctrine(s) and what other passages support it?

What are the uses of this doctrine in everyday life?



**APPLY IT:**

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Choose which applications apply and how you will seek to practice it in your life today.

- What *instruction* does this text reinforce?
- What *error* does this text refute?
- What *duty* does this text require?
- What *prohibition* does this text forbid?
- What *examination* does this text call for?
- What *commitment* does this text declare?
- Is there an *example* to follow?
- Are there *commandments* to obey?
- Are there *errors* to avoid?
- Are there *sins* to forsake or confess?
- Are there *promises* to claim?
- Are there *principles* to implement?
- Are there *temptations* to resist?
- Are there *praises* to render?
- Are there *attitudes* to adjust?

**Write it here:** (bring it back with you next week to see if you applied it—I double-dog dare you!)

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