

Christian Students Association Bible Study

February 16, 2021

The Details of Our Christian Living in the Body of Christ – Ephesians 5:1-10

1 Be therefore imitators of God, as beloved children;

2 And walk in love, even as Christ also loved us and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor.

3 But fornication and all uncleanness or greediness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints,

4 And obscenity and foolish talking or sly, filthy jesting, which are not becoming, but rather the giving of thanks.

5 For this you realize, knowing that every fornicator or unclean person or greedy person (who is an idolater) has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

6 Let no one deceive you with vain words, for because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience.

7 Therefore do not be partakers with them;

8 For you were once darkness but are now light in the Lord; walk as children of light

9 (For the fruit of the light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth),

10 Proving what is well pleasing to the Lord.

Note for “love” in verse 2: As grace and reality (truth) are the basic elements in 4:17-32, so love and light (vv. 8-9, 13) are the basic elements in the apostle’s exhortation in 5:1-33. Grace is the expression of love, and love is the source of grace. Truth is the revelation of light, and light is the origin of truth. God is love and God is light (1 John 4:8; 1:5). When God is expressed and revealed in the Lord Jesus, His love becomes grace and His light becomes truth. After we have, in the Lord, received God as grace and realized Him as truth, we come to Him and enjoy His love and light. Love and light are deeper than grace and truth. Hence, the apostle first took grace and truth as the basic elements for his exhortation, and then love and light. This implies that he wanted our daily walk to grow deeper, to progress from the outward elements to the inward.

Love is the inner substance of God, whereas light is the expressed element of God. The inward love of God is sensible, and the outward light of God is visible. Our walk in love should be constituted of both the loving substance and the shining element of God. These should be the inner source of our walk. They are deeper than grace and truth.

Fellowship Questions:

- What is the relationship between grace and love?
- What is the relationship between truth and light?