

Christian Students Association Bible Study

February 23, 2021

The Living Needed in the Daily Walk

The Details of This Living - Ephesians 4:10-21

Walk in Love - Ephesians 5:2

Walk as Children of Light - Ephesians 5:8

Walk as Wise - Ephesians 5:15

Be Filled in Spirit - Ephesians 5:18

10 Proving what is well pleasing to the Lord.

11 And do not participate in the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather even reprove them.

12 For the things which are done by them in secret it is shameful even to speak of.

13 But all things which are reproved are made manifest by the light; for everything that makes manifest is light.

14 Therefore He says, Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

15 Look therefore carefully how you walk, not as unwise, but as wise,

16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissoluteness, but be filled in spirit,

19 Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and psalming with your heart to the Lord,

20 Giving thanks at all times for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our God and Father,

21 Being subject to one another in the fear of Christ:

Note for "sleeper" in verse 14 – The sleeping one who needs the reproof mentioned in vv. 11 and 13 is also a dead one. He needs to awake from sleep and arise from the dead.

Note for “Christ” in verse 14 - When we reprove or expose anyone who is sleeping and dead in darkness, Christ will shine on him. Our reproof or exposing in light is Christ’s shining.

Note for “Look therefore carefully” in verse 15 – To live by being filled in spirit (vv. 15-21) is the fifth aspect of a walk that is worthy of God’s calling. The first four aspects of such a worthy walk are keeping the oneness, growing up into the Head, learning Christ, and living in love and light. The issue of having these four aspects of a worthy walk is that we are spontaneously filled in our spirit. Out of this inward filling will come submission, love, obedience, care, and all the other virtues of a proper Christian life, church life, family life, and community life. What a life we have when we demonstrate the five aspects of a walk that is worthy of God’s calling!

Note for “Redeeming the time” in verse 16 - I.e., seizing every favorable opportunity. This is to be wise in our walk (v. 15).

Note for “days” in verse 16 - In this evil age (Gal. 1:4) every day is an evil day full of pernicious things that cause our time to be used ineffectively, to be reduced, and to be taken away. Therefore, we must walk wisely that we may redeem the time, seizing every available opportunity.

Note for “understand” in verse 17 - To understand the will of the Lord is the best way to redeem our time (v. 16). Most of our time is wasted because we do not know the will of the Lord.

Note for “drunk with wine” in verse 18 - To be drunk with wine is to be filled in the body, whereas to be filled in the spirit (our regenerated spirit, not God’s Spirit) is to be filled with Christ (1:23) unto the fullness of God (3:19). To be drunk with wine in our physical body causes us to become dissolute, but to be filled in our spirit with Christ, with the fullness of God, causes us to overflow with Christ in speaking, singing, psalming, and giving thanks to God (vv. 19-20) and also causes us to subject ourselves to one another (v. 21).

Note for “Speaking” in verse 19 - Verses 19-21 modify *be filled in spirit* in v. 18. Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs are not only for singing and psalming but also for speaking to one another. Such speaking, singing, psalming, giving of thanks to God (v. 20), and subjecting of ourselves to one another (v. 21) are not only the outflow of being filled in spirit but also the way to be filled in spirit.

Note for “psalms and hymns and spiritual songs” in verse 19 - Psalms are long poems, hymns are shorter poems, and spiritual songs are poems that are shorter still. All are needed in order for us to be filled with the Lord and to overflow with Him in our Christian life.

Note for “at all times” in verse 20 - We should give thanks to God the Father not only in good times but at all times, and not only for good things but for all things. Even in bad times we should give thanks to God our Father for the bad things.

Note for “in the name” in verse 20 - The reality of the name of the Lord is His person. To be in the Lord’s name is to be in His person, in Himself. This implies that we should be one with the Lord in giving thanks to God.

Note for “subject” in verse 21 - Being subject to one another also is a way to be filled in spirit with the Lord (v. 18) and is the overflow of being filled. This is to live in the way of being filled in spirit with all the riches of Christ unto the fullness of God.

Note for “one another” in verse 21 - Our subjection should be to one another — the younger ones to the older ones, and also the older ones to the younger ones (1 Pet. 5:5).

Note for “fear of Christ” in verse 21 - According to the context of the succeeding verses, to be in the fear of Christ is to fear offending Him as the Head. This is related to His headship (v. 23) and involves our being subject to one another. See note 33².

Fellowship Questions

- What is the main factor in our walk in love?
- How does walking as children of light bring in the fruit of the light?
- What does it mean to walk as wise?
- How are we filled in spirit?