



Sunday, September 23, 2018

A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

Today we begin a new series, studying through the book of Ephesians. Our goal is to consider “Our Worthy Walk” and seek to grow in our understanding of how to “Walk with the Lord to the praise of His glory.”

I. The WEALTH of the Believer (1:1-3:21)

A. Introduction (1:1-2)

1. The _____ of this Letter (1)

Ephesians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of **Jesus Christ** by the will of **God**, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in **Christ Jesus**:

a. The PENMAN—

An “*apostle*” lit. is one _____ to do something as one’s representative.

b. The PEOPLE—

“...to the saints...” — It is the Greek word, “*hagios*.” Lit. sacred or _____ ones.

c. The **PLACE**—_____ (Acts 18-19)

d. The **PERSON**—_____ (It's all about Christ)

i. Paul is sent by Christ—“*Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus*”

ii. The message is to those “_____ Christ”

Paul teaches us, in the first 3 chapters of Ephesians, what it means to be “*in Christ*.” This phrase is used 10 different times in these 3 chapters.

The similar phrases, “*in Him*,” “*in the beloved*,” and “*in Whom*” are used twice, once, and 7 times respectively. All together Paul emphasizes that we are “*in Christ*,” in one form or another 21 times in the first 3 chapters.

iii. It is a message from Christ—“*from the Lord Jesus Christ*” (2)

1. The _____ of this Letter (2)

The purpose of this letter is to encourage its readers as it reminds them of their riches in Christ and to live in such a manner that is in line with such a powerful reality. Paul speaks of the **WEALTH** of the believer that should lead to their **WORSHIP** in their **WORKING** and **WALKING**.

a. Our _____: “*grace and peace*”

Ephesians 1:2 Grace *be* to you, and peace, from **God** our **Father**, and *from* the **Lord Jesus Christ**.

This word, “*grace*” is the Greek word, “*charis*.” It can be defined as that which causes joy, and pleasure. It speaks of favor done without expectation of return.

This word, “*peace*” speaks of rest, tranquility, and harmony.

2 Peter 1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of **God**, and of **Jesus** our **Lord**,

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, **My** peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Philippians 2:13 For it is **God** which worketh in you both to will [*desire*] and to do of *His* good pleasure.

b. Our _____: "*the praise of His glory*" (1:12)

Ephesians 1:12 That we should be to the praise of **His** glory, who first trusted in Christ.

c. Our _____: "*walk in good works*" (2:10)

Ephesians 2:10 For we are **His** workmanship [*masterpiece*], created in **Christ Jesus** unto good works, which **God** hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

d. Our _____: "*walk worthy of our calling*" (4:1, 11-12)

Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the **Lord**, beseech you that ye walk worthy [*appropriately*] of the vocation [*calling*] wherewith ye are called,

Ephesians 4:11-12 And **He** gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; **12** For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of **Christ**:

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 What is the work of the ministry?



Our worthy walk is a call to action to consider our wealth in Christ, our working for Christ, and our walking according to the will of Christ. It is to live according to the "*good pleasure of [God's] will*" (1:5) and to "*the praise of His glory*" (1:6) by walking according to our created purpose of "*good works*" (2:10).

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.



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What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (***Put OFF SIN***)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (***Renew your mind***)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (***Put ON CHRIST***)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!