



Sunday, June 2, 2019

MAKE 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)

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

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.” Through these chapters we have sought to grow in our understanding of the greatness of our God—Who He is—and in turn Who He is to me.

II. The WALK of the Believer (4:1-6:9)

Here in chapter 4 Paul moves into the practical portion of his letter to the saints at Ephesus. Whereas the question in chapters 1-3 was, “What is it to be a Christian?” here in the remainder of the book it is “How to live as a Christian?”

We note that our understanding of the PRINCIPLES of GOD’S WORD will lead to the PRACTICE of GOD’S WAYS.

A. Walk WORTHY (4:1)

To “walk worthy” of your calling is to live in such a way that what we were saved for and the way we live are in balance—both having equal weight. Paul begs us to live in balance with what we were saved for. Our calling and our conduct should be in line.

B. Walk in UNITY (4:2-6)

Paul commands us to WALK WORTHY, first, by WALKING IN UNITY. He explains that to “walk worthy,” is simply to live like Jesus. It is a life marked by Christlikeness.

1. Our VILLAIN of UNITY—LUST (James 4:1-10)

The villain of Biblical unity is caused by lust—the hedonistic desire for worldly pleasure. The consequences are *frustrated cravings, faulty communication, and failed communion*.

The **cure** for this hedonistic lust is humility. The cure for LUSTFUL DISUNITY is rooted in LOVING HUMILITY.

2. Our VISION of UNITY—LOWLINESS (Ephesians 4:2-6)

This *practice of humility* will lead us to live with a VISIBLE Biblical unity by having the right VISION of unity.

- a. Our VIEW of SELF—“lowliness”
- b. Our VIEW of GOD—“meekness”
- c. Our VIEW of OTHERS—“longsuffering, forbearing”
- d. Our VIEW of the CHURCH—“There is one body”

John 17:21 That they all may be one; as **Thou, Father, art in Me**, and I in **Thee**, that they also may be one in **Us**: that the world may believe that **Thou** hast sent **Me**.

i. Our UNITY in the SPIRIT (Ephesians 4:4)

“One Spirit, ...” (**Eph 4:4**) – At the moment of salvation, the Holy Spirit comes to indwell the believing sinner. It is through the “*Spirit*” of God that we find unity in the “*body*” of Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one **Spirit** are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit*.

a) We are UNIFIED in the “body” by the “Spirit”

1 Corinthians 12:12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also *is Christ*.

This “*one body*” speaks of the body of believers being “*in Christ*.” Each of those who are in the “*body*” are blood bought sinners having placed their faith in Christ alone for salvation.

b) We share a GLORIFIED “hope” through the “Spirit”

Cf. Ephesians 1:13-14; Ephesians 2:12-13

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten [regenerated - born again] us again unto a lively [living] hope [confident expectation] by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

The “hope” the believer has is a shared destiny in which will be like Christ and with Him for all eternity (1Jn 3:1-3).

ii. Our UNITY in the SON (Ephesians 4:5)

Acts 2:36 “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord [supreme ruler] and Christ [annointed One / Messiah].”

Acts 4:12 “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

a) We are UNITED to our “Lord” by “faith”

b) We are IDENTIFIED with our “Lord” by “baptism”

iii. Our UNITY in the FATHER (Ephesians 4:6)

Ephesians 2:18 For through Him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

John 1:11-12 He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. 12 But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name:



Our WORTHY WALK is explained, first, by WALKING IN UNITY. With a RENEWED VISION, we must what unites us. We are UNIFIED in the “body” by the “Spirit” and we share a GLORIFIED “hope” through that same “Spirit.” We are UNITED to our “Lord” by “faith,” and we are IDENTIFIED with our “Lord” by “baptism.” Our UNITY IN THE FATHER is seen in our submission to His REDEMPITIVE FATHERHOOD through Christ.

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

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!