



Sunday, November 3, 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)

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

A. Walk **WORTHY—VERTICALLY** before **GOD** (4:1-32)

B. Walk **WORTHY—HORIZONTALLY** toward **OTHERS** (5:1-6:9)

1. Walk in **LOVE DISPLAYING** the **LOVE** of **CHRIST** (5:1-2)

We are to faithfully follow the **PATTERN** of Christ’s love out of gratitude for Him as the **PROPITIATION** for our sins. Our love for others is to be an act of worship—a sweet-smelling savor that is **PLEASING** to our Heavenly Father.

2. Walk in **LIGHT REFLECTING** the **LIGHT** of **CHRIST** (5:3-14)

Paul turns to our **INFLUENCE**. Following his call for us to love like our heavenly Father by imitating the sacrificial love of our Savior, we are now called upon to walk in light in the way that we love.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the **Holy Ghost** is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto **Me** [*My witnesses*] both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

POSITION OF INFLUENCE—*“Ye are the salt of the earth”* & *“Ye are the light of the world”* (Matthew 5:13-15)

PRIVILEGE OF INFLUENCE—*“Let your light so shine before men”* (Mat. 5:16)

a. The DARKNESS of the WORLD (Ephesians 5:3-6)

i. The PERVERSION of Darkened Living (3-4)

We are to love like CHRIST and not like the world.

a) Lacking SELF-CONTROL – “Fornication” (3a)

“Fornication” speaks of any kind of sexual sin. Essentially it is a lack of sexual **self-control**.

“Uncleanness” speaks of any type of physical or moral impurity; rottenness.

Proverbs 25:28 He that *hath* **no** rule over his own spirit *is like* a city *that is* broken down, *and* without walls.

Ultimately, the only way that we can live a life of consistent self-control is live a life controlled by God’s Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the **Spirit**;

Galatians 5:16 *This* I say then, “Walk in the **Spirit**, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

b) Lacking CONTENTMENT – “Covetousness” (3b)

The insatiable appetite of “*covetousness*” is the desire to take something that is forbidden—what doesn’t belong to them.

Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection [*depraved, vile passions*], evil concupiscence [*injurious intentions*], and covetousness, which is idolatry:

1 Timothy 6:6 But Godliness with contentment is great gain [*valuable*].

c) Lacking GODLY CONVERSATION—“Filthiness, foolish talking, jesting” (4)

This phrase, “*not convenient*” speaks of something that is not proper.

Colossians 3:8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

1 Peter 2:1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

Colossians 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to **God** and the **Father by Him**.

ii. The **PENALTY** of Darkened Living (5-6)

a) The **DESTINATION** (5)

Paul spoke of these specific sins back in **Eph 5:3**. Now, he speaks of the penalty of those whose lives are characterized by these sinful activities.

Paul says that they are an “*idolater*”—a servant or worshiper of idols. They, through their “*covetous*” lifestyle serve and worship the object of their affection. Their “*god is their belly*” (Philippians 3:18-19).

b) The **DECEPTION** (6)

This phrase, “*children of disobedience*” literally speaks those who are “obstinate opposition to the divine will” (Thayer). This describes those who are lost, i.e. unbelievers.

Ephesians 5:7 Be not ye therefore partakers with them.



Our **WORTHY WALK** is explained by **WALKING IN LIGHT**. We are to live a life of influence, **REFLECTING** the **LIGHT** of **CHRIST**, toward our **HORIZONTAL RELATIONSHIPS**. We must refrain from living like the darkened world around us but instead, live with **SELF-CONTROL**, **CONTENTMENT**, and engage in **GODLY CONVERSATION**.

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!