



Sunday, December 1, 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)

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

Paul turns to our influence—we are now called upon to walk in light in the way that we love. In this passage, Paul, once again, lays out the contrasting walk. He reminded us of **WHO WE WERE** and then reminded us of **WHO WE ARE**. He spoke of the **DARKNESS OF THE WORLD** contrasted with the **LIGHT OF CHRIST**.

Ephesians 5:8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are* ye light in the **Lord**: walk as children of light:

3. Walk in **WISDOM** in the **WORD** of **CHRIST** (5:15-17)

Our **WORTHY WALK** is explained by **WALKING IN WISDOM**. It is God’s will that a believer walks in obedience by **DISPLAYING HIS LOVE** (v. 1-2) and **REFLECTING HIS LIGHT** (v. 3-14). We must be **CAREFUL** to faithfully apply these truths always seeking God’s Word to **COMPREHEND** His perfect will.

4. Walk in **STEP** with the **SPIRIT** of **CHRIST** (5:18-21)

To WALK IN LOVE is to live a life of loving sacrifice to our Jerusalem as we display our supreme love for the Father. This WALK IN LOVE is a WALK OF SACRIFICIAL INFLUENCE being salt and light to our Jerusalem. To most effectively WALK IN LIGHT, we must WALK IN WISDOM redeeming the opportunities our Lord presents to us to build redemptive relationships in our Jerusalem. WALKING IN WISDOM begins by YIELDING IN SUBMISSION to the Spirit of God. It is learning to daily WALK IN STEP WITH the SPIRIT OF CHRIST.

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the **LORD** is the beginning of **Wisdom**: and the knowledge of the **Holy** [One] is understanding.

The word “fear” is rooted in SUBMISSION. We have placed ourselves in submission to whatever we fear. This is practical submission. When we fear something we bow in submission to it and in turn obey it as our master.

a. The **COMMAND** to Walk in the Spirit (18)

i. A LACK of SELF-CONTROL (18a)

a) The **COMMAND** to make a **CHOICE**

To be “drunk” is to be filled with a fermented beverage so as to no longer have full control over your thoughts and actions.

b) **FAILING** to **CHOOSE** brings **CHANGE**

“... wherein is excess; ...” (Eph 5:18) – This “excess” speaks of debauchery; wastefulness; it indicates the ruin of life from a life devoted to pleasure (Preacher).

1 Corinthians 6:12 All things [things not including immoral matters already condemned (cf. 1Co 5:1-13; 1Co 6:1-11)] are lawful [permissible] unto me, but all things are not expedient [good for me to do]: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power [the control] of any.

Paul understood the danger of even so called “harmless” things. He gives great insight here to encourage us to honestly ask the question, “will I become enslaved to _____ as I yield to its influence?”

c) The **CHANGE** brings a **CONSEQUENCE**

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

James 1:14-15 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of [*by*] his own lust, and enticed. **15** Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

1. **DESIRE** delivers the **TEMPTATION** (14a)
 2. **DECEPTION** draws us into its **TRAP** (14b)
 3. **DISOBEDIENCE** determines to **TRANSGRESS** (15a)
 4. **DEATH** defines the **TERMINATION** (15b)
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ii. A LOT of **SPIRIT** CONTROL (18b)

a) The **COMMAND** calls for a deliberate **CHOICE**

“...but be filled with the Spirit;” (Eph 5:18) – To be *“filled”* speaks of something that is made full. The implication here is control. (i.e. someone who is *“filled with anger”* is consumed by that anger. His actions are out of control as he is allowing his emotions to control him)

b) The **CONSTRUCTION** calls for a repeated **OCCURRENCE**



Our **WORTHY WALK** is further explained by **WALKING IN STEP** with the **SPIRIT** of **CHRIST**. A **COMMAND** is given to **YIELD** to the **SPIRIT’S CONTROL** by making a **DELIBERATE** and **REPEATED CHOICE**, participating in **DILIGENT COOPERATION** and **SATURATING CONCENTRATION** anticipating a **DELIGHTFUL CHANGE**.

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!