

EPHESIANS SESSION 5

Review: Last week we went through chapter 4 which dealt with how we should walk as new creatures in Christ, the ground upon which Christian unity is built (the 7 ones), the gifting of offices for the maturing of the saints and to prepare them for ministry, then commands on putting off the old man and putting on Christ. This is done through renewing the mind.

Ephesians 5:1-2 Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. *As natural children imitate the things they see their parents do, we are to imitate what our heavenly Father does. Jesus Christ modeled it for us by loving us selflessly and sacrificially.*

Ephesians 5:3-5 But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. *Things like sexual immorality, impurity or greediness should not be heard of among the saints because it is not fitting. Neither obscene and foolish talking or crude joking. Saved individuals who live in these manners have no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God (no rewards, crowns etc).*

Ephesians 5:6-8 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: *Don't be deceived by anyone with empty words – yes you are saved by grace through faith and sealed with the Holy Spirit until the day of redemption...but there are consequences to living after the flesh! Before we were saved, we lived according to the lust of our flesh because we were in darkness. But now we've seen the Light and we are the light...so live like it.*

Ephesians 5:9-13 (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. But all things that are reproved are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. *Everything the Spirit of God produces in us is good, right and true. The fruit of the Spirit is valuable, but the works of the flesh have no*

value. The culture in Ephesus was both idolatrous and immoral, so the Christians were instructed here to have no fellowship with their works. Does this mean we go around pointing out everything that people do wrong? No. We just follow Christ and don't follow sinners into ungodly living. When we follow Christ and not the world, it turns light on the darkness.

Ephesians 5:14-17 Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. *Christians who are asleep give no light. The word "circumspectly" means cautiously every way with attention to guard against surprise or danger. It's foolish to walk recklessly. The phrase "redeeming the time" means to make the most of the time you have left. It's unwise for a Christian to not be seriously seeking the will of God for their lives.*

Ephesians 5:18-21 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. *Instead of getting drunk which is reckless, we should be filled with the Spirit. When you are saved, you are indwelt by the Spirit, and he will never leave you. But being filled with the Spirit is different. A drunk person is under the influence of alcohol. A person filled by the Spirit is under the Spirit's influence. A person is filled with the Spirit when self is removed, and the Spirit empowers a believer to do the Father's will. Spirit-filled believers are joyful, thankful, obedient and submissive.*

Ephesians 5:22-24 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. *He begins the order for the Christian home. These commands are for the blessing of the relationship and more importantly to model Christ and his church to the world. Wives are to submit to their husbands because the church submits to Christ. God holds the man responsible for the condition and spiritual direction of his family.*

Ephesians 5:25-28 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. *The husband is to love his*

wife the way Christ loves the church...to death. Headship is not a dictatorship but is being a responsible governing authority. The husband is responsible for leading his family in the advancement of God's kingdom in the context of love. In marriage, two become one, so when a husband loves his wife...he loves himself.

Ephesians 5:29-33 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence *her* husband. *The church is not only the bride of Christ, but it's also his body! He loves us, provides for us and protects us and so should a husband for his wife. When God instituted marriage in the beginning, it was He who said "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." God commands us to fulfill what each other need. A wife needs her husband to love her, when she has that she is satisfied. A husband wants his wife's respect, when he has it he is whole.*