



Date: May 19, 2019

Scripture: Ephesians 5:15-21

How to Walk the Talk...

This chapter of scripture (Ephesians 5) teaches us how to live out the Christian life—how to walk the talk. We should watch carefully how we walk, as people with crutches on a wet floor, or residents of Mid-Michigan after an ice-storm, opportunities to misstep and fall abound.

Ephesians 5:15 ^(ESV)

15 Look carefully then how you **walk**, not as unwise but **as wise**,

Ephesians 5:8 ^(ESV)

8 ...**Walk as children of light**

Ephesians 5:1–2 ^(ESV)

5 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And **walk in love**, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

How do we walk carefully and wisely - by being filled with the Spirit (Eph 5:18). A great deal of misinformation and malpractice surrounds around this concept. Much of that misinformation and malpractice would be avoided if people had a Biblically robust and theologically sound view of the Holy Spirit. Who is the Holy Spirit? What is the Holy Spirit like? How does the Holy Spirit work? This section of scripture helps to answer some of those questions. ¹

¹ See link below to teaching seminar for further teaching on the person of the Holy Spirit
<https://vimeo.com/164397308>



The Holy Spirit

To learn more about what the Work of the Spirit looks like observe the contrast –

Being filled with alcohol vs. being filled with the Spirit. (Eph 5:18)

- What characterizes someone filled with alcohol?
- What characterizes someone filled with the Spirit? ⁱ
- How do those states compare and contrast?
- Which, Spirit or spirits, would be characterized by ‘losing control’? ⁱⁱ
- How can one tell if something is “of the Spirit” or not? ⁱⁱⁱ

What’s the difference between *being indwelt by the Spirit* and *being filled with the Spirit*? ^{iv}



Wisdom

One of the things the Holy Spirit does is to impart wisdom.

Isaiah 11:1–2 ^(ESV)

The Righteous Reign of the Branch

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

- ² And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

Wisdom teaches us to do two things.

1. What wisdom call us to do in Eph 5:16?
 - a. What does that look like in our culture, day and age?

2. What wisdom call us to do in Eph 5:17?
 - a. Where in this book did we learn what the Lord's will is?
 - b. How does knowing God's will direct our walk (Direction)?
 - c. How does knowing God's eternal plan encourage us in our "walk"?

Please pray together and encourage one another with these words. Be Careful. Be filled. Walk wisely. Live in step/tune with the Holy Spirit.



ⁱ Ephesians 5:19-21 gives five participles which are the 'fruit' or outward manifestations of being filled with the Spirit. What are they?

Philippians 2:1-10 = an excellent picture of Submission to one another.

ii Under the influence of the Holy Spirit

- we do not lose control;
- we gain it.

John R. W. Stott, *God's New Society: The Message of Ephesians*, The Bible Speaks

Today (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1979), 204–205.

ⁱⁱⁱ Holy Spirit is orderly –

- There's unity, harmony.
- NOT CHAOS.

The Son (Jesus) always points to God-the-Father

The Holy Spirit always points to God-the-Son.

If a certain action is drawing attention to itself and not pointing to Jesus, it is not "of the Spirit." The sign is never the thing, but always points beyond itself to the greater reality of what it represents.

Jesus is greater than any of the miracles he ever performed.

^{iv} Whereas the degree to which one is “filled” varies.

These first three ministries of the Spirit—

1. sealing,
2. indwelling, and
3. baptism—

are bestowed on every believer at the time of salvation.

... **all are an integral part of the gift of salvation.**

Harold W. Hoehner, Philip W. Comfort, and Peter H. Davids, *Cornerstone Biblical Commentary: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1&2 Thessalonians, Philemon.*, vol. 16 (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2008), 109.

^v **Indecision is a decision b/c**

Time is going by, and
evil will use it
if Christians do not.

Klyne Snodgrass, *Ephesians*, The NIV Application Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1996), 288.

The verb *exagorazō* can mean ‘redeem’ or ‘buy back’, and if used in this way here, the appeal is to **ransom the time from its evil bondage**’.

But probably it means rather to ‘buy up’, in which case rsv is right to translate *making the most of the time*, ‘time’ (*kairos*) referring to every passing opportunity.

John R. W. Stott, *God’s New Society: The Message of Ephesians*, The Bible Speaks Today (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1979), 202.



Old Time Rock'n Roll – the kinda music that moves the soul = Christian Rock ☺

Petra Lyrics

"Stand Up" from "More Power to Ya" - 1982

(Straight out of Ephesians – see if you can match stanza to Bible Verse)

*The Battle cry's getting louder The countdown's close to the final hour
The enemy is on every side Still no match for the Crucified
Victory unto victory We are soldiers in His army*

*Stand up, take a stand for Jesus Stand up, so the whole world sees us
Showing the way to a world gone astray Shining our light with all of our
might*

*Stand up, take a stand for Jesus Stand up, so the whole world sees us
Following Him, and serving Him Fighting the fight that we know we will
win*

*Out of our pews and into the streets Making some use of our beautiful feet
Redeeming the time for the days are evil This whole world's in such
upheaval*

*We wrestle not with flesh and blood But when the enemy comes in like a
flood*