

## Ephesians 5:1-21 **Walk in Love and Light – Avoid Evil and Darkness**

### Walk in Love

<sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. <sup>2</sup> And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

### Avoid all Evil

<sup>3</sup> But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; <sup>4</sup> neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. <sup>5</sup> For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. <sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup> Therefore do not be partakers with them.

### Out of Darkness – Into Light

<sup>8</sup> For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), <sup>10</sup> finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. <sup>12</sup> For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. <sup>13</sup> But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. <sup>14</sup> Therefore He says:

"Awake, you who sleep,  
Arise from the dead,  
And Christ will give you light."

### Walk Circumspectly as Wise Filled with the Spirit – Not as Unwise

<sup>15</sup> See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, <sup>16</sup> redeeming the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup> And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> submitting to one another in the fear of God.

NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

#### Walk in Love [Ephesians 5:1-2]

- ✚ We were instructed to put off the Old man and put on the New man. [Ephesians 4:17-32]
- ✚ As such, the best guide is to **be imitators of God** as God's dear children.
- ✚ Follow the example of Christ as you walk in love.
  - ✧ Christ loved us and gave Himself for us, as an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling aroma.

#### Avoid all Evil [Ephesians 5:3-7]

- ✚ Paul then gives us a list as an example of the works of the flesh we are to avoid.
  - ✧ Fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints.
  - ✧ Filthiness, foolish talking, and coarse jesting, are not fitting for saints.

- ✧ For this you know, that **no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.**
- ✧ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for **because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.**
- ✧ Therefore do not be partakers with them.

✧ Giving of Thanks to God is always proper for the Saints.

### Out of Darkness – Into Light [Ephesians 5:8-14]

- ✧ You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. [Ephesians 5:8, Matthew 4:16, Isaiah 9:2]
- ✧ Walk as Children of light.
  - ✧ Learn what is acceptable to Yehowah.
  - ✧ Fruit of the Spirit – Evidence:
    - ✧ The Fruit of the Spirit is in all **Goodness, Righteousness, and Truth.**
  - ✧ Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but expose them. [Ephesians 4:17-22, Galatians 5:19-21]
    - ✧ It is shameful to speak of things done in secret by those in darkness.
  - ✧ All things exposed are made known by the light.
  - ✧ The purpose of the light, is to expose the things of darkness.
  - ✧ Therefore, God says:
    - "Awake, you who sleep,  
Arise from the dead,  
And Christ will give you light." [Ephesians 5:14]
- ✧ When we are shown by Scripture the discernment between the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Holy Spirit, we are expected to wake up and live our lives accordingly.

### Walk Circumspectly as Wise Filled with the Spirit – Not as Unwise [Ephesians 5:15-21]

- ✧ Walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.
  - ✧ Redeeming the time means to buy back the time we have which was sold out to sin before we knew the truth, but now has been sanctified to righteousness after we were saved.
  - ✧ The times we live in are evil and perilous as we live in the midst of a wicked and perverse generation. [Ephesians 5:15-16, Deuteronomy 32:5, 19-20, Matthew 17:17, Luke 9:41, Acts 2:40, Philippians 2:15]
  - ✧ To explain his meaning, Paul breaks it down for us:
    - ✧ Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.
    - ✧ **Do not** be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation (excessiveness and unrestrained wickedness).
    - ✧ Be filled with the Holy Spirit, bearing the fruits of the Spirit. [Ephesians 5:9, Galatians 5:22-23]
    - ✧ Speak to one another in Psalms, and hymns, and spiritual songs.
    - ✧ Sing and make melody in your heart to the Lord.
    - ✧ Give thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. [Ephesians 5:20, Psalm 136:26, 140:13, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Romans 8:28]
    - ✧ Submit to one another in the fear of God. [Ephesians 5:21]