

L90 | Ephesians | "Your Vocation to Walk Worthy Of" | Eph. 4:1-3

I. Intro/Review:

- Second prayer in Ephesians
 1. First prayer "to know" three things
 - i. "the hope of His calling"
 - ii. "the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints"
 - iii. "the exceeding greatness of His power"
 2. Second prayer
 - i. "to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man"
 - "Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith"
 - ii. "may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;"
 - iii. "to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge"
 - "that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."
 3. Review observations
 - i. "according to the riches of His glory" - "know the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints" - Col. 1 - Christ in you
 - ii. "that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God" - contrary to "fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind"
 - iii. "that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God" - Eph.1 - "the fulness of Him (the Father) that filleth all in all"
 - Be filled with Christ
- Prov. 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

II. Preview:

1. Vocation
2. Walk
3. Worthy
 1. With all lowliness and meekness
 2. With longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;
 3. Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace

III. Sermon:

I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, {Ephesians 4:1}

- **"I therefore"** - conclusion of instruction of prayer that is "in the Spirit"

- **"the prisoner of the Lord,"** - the extent in which Paul is to preach this message on behalf of the Lord for His people
- **"beseech you"** - "parakaleo" (called - kaleo) - call you to his side, call near, summon, instruction, exhortation, entreaty, comfort
 - Paul alongside the Lord who has called
- **"that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,"**
 1. "ye are called" - "vocation"
 2. "walk"
 3. "worthy"

1. **Vocation** - "ye are called"/"vocation"

1. **Define** - Only time it is translated "vocation"

- English - Online Etymology Dictionary
early 15c., "spiritual calling," from Old French *vocacion* "call, consecration; calling, profession" (13c.) or directly from Latin *vocationem* (nominative *vocatio*), literally "a calling, a being called" from *vocatus* "called," past participle of *vocare* "to call," which is related to *vox* (genitive *vocis*) "voice" (from PIE root ***wekw-** "to speak"). Sense of "one's occupation or profession" is first attested 1550s.

From <<https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=vocation>>

- Vocation, or calling is that estate, degré, or trade of life too which any man is allotted, eyther by birth, by commaun|dement of God, by appoyntme of the Magistrate, by o portunitie of time, or by necessitie.

From <<https://leme.library.utoronto.ca/search/quick>>

- Col. 1:27-29 - Christ in you...present every man perfect in Christ Jesus...labour...striving"

2. **Verses (bidden, called, bade,**

- For the gifts and **calling** of God [are] without repentance. {Romans 11:29}
- For ye see your **calling**, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, [are called]: {1 Corinthians 1:26}
- Let every man abide in the same **calling** wherein he was called. {1 Corinthians 7:20}
- The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his **calling**, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, {Ephesians 1:18}
- I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the **vocation** wherewith ye are called, {Ephesians 4:1}

- [There is] one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your **calling**; {Ephesians 4:4}
- I press toward the mark for the prize of the high **calling** of God in Christ Jesus. {Philippians 3:14}
- Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of [this] **calling**, and fulfil all the good pleasure of [his] goodness, and the work of faith with power: {2 Thessalonians 1:11}
- Who hath saved us, and called [us] with an holy **calling**, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, {2 Timothy 1:9}
- Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly **calling**, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; {Hebrews 3:1}
- Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your **calling** and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: {2 Peter 1:10}

3. Kind of Calling

1. Of God in Christ - Rom. 11:29, Eph. 1:18, Php. 3:14

1. Holy - not according to our works - 2 Tim. 1:9 (1 Cor. 1:26) {Redemption} (Eph. 2:8-9)
 - "unto holiness" - 1 The. 4:7
2. High - mark for the prize - heavenly - Php. 3:14 {Purpose}
 - "lay hold on eternal life" - 1 Tim. 6:12
3. Hope - eternal purpose in Christ {Inheritance}
 - "obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ" - 2 The. 2:14

2. More on calling

1. By His Grace - Gal. 1:15
 - "by our gospel" - 2 The. 14
2. In One Body - Gal. 3:15
3. Unto His Kingdom and Glory - 1 The. 2:12
4. Unto the Fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord - 1 Cor. 1:9

- Not of works, not of our flesh (holy), and to be holy and without blame before Him in love (hope) of which we are to walk worthy of now (high).

4. Context

1. Eph. 1:4 - "according as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love:"

1. Purpose

1.1 - In Christ

1.2 - Holy and without blame before Him in love

- Rom. 8:28-30

2. Redemption

2.1 - Eph. 1:7 - "In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace;"

3. Inheritance

3.1 - Eph. 1:11 - "In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will:"

4. More

- **Eph. 2:4-7**

1.1 - "for His great love" (purpose to be holy and without blame before Him in love in Christ)

1.2 - "quickenened", "raised", "sit" (redemptive benefits according to purpose) (workmanship {10})

1.3 - "ages to come He might shew" (inheritance)

- **Eph. 2:8-10**

1.1 - "not of works" - Holy

1.2 - "created in Christ Jesus unto good works...walk in them" - High/Hope

- **Eph. 2:22**

1.1 - "In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit"

- Dwell within Jew and Gentile in one body
- Dwell within the believer

- Eph. 3:16-21

1.1 - "strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man"

1.2 - "that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith"

1.3 - "that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God"

1.4 - "unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus"

5. **Summary**

1. Calling is of God in Christ
2. Calling according to His eternal purpose in Christ
3. **Calling to be holy and without blame before Him in love**
4. Calling consistent with redemption and the gospel
 - Repent of sin and turn to God
 - Forgiveness of sins

2. **Walk**

1. God's calling effects our walk, not our walk His calling

- What has God called you to?
 - Not to be the best athlete
 - Not to have your voice heard
 - Not to have mere worldly reputation
 - Most consider God's calling only in regards to an earthly calling (1 Cor. 7) which need not change
 - His calling transcends your earthly calling (which may change)
 - God has called you to be holy and without blame before Him in love
 - Good works
 - Love
2. Walk out of calling
 3. Denotes activity, strengthen, coordination, and purpose - one's way, progress
 - Ps. 119:105 - "NUN. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and alight unto my path."
 - Pro. 4:26 - "Ponder the path of thy feed, and let all thy ways be established."
 4. Walk begins in the inner man

3. **Worthy**

1. Adverb - describes the verb, modifies the verb
2. Implying a walk being not worthy of which we have been called
3. Walking worthily or not doesn't alter or change our regeneration but what we do with it
4. Worthy indicates our walk is suitable, consistent, of the sort of His calling of us
 - The more we know Him and His things the more we are able to walk and walk worthy
- Verses
 - Rom. 16:2 - "...as **becometh** saints"
 - Php. 1:27 - "Only let your conversation be as it **becometh** the gospel of Christ:"
 - Col. 1:10 - "Thtat ye might walk **worthy** of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;"
 - 1 The. 2:12 - "that ye would walk **worthy** of God, who hath called you unto His kingdom and glory."
5. Teaches us we by His strength, with Christ in our hearts by faith, filled with all the fulness of God are able to walk worthy.

IV. **Conclusion:**

- "with" what?
- Endeavouring to do what?