

Ephesians 5 Pt 1

Vertical

- 1-3 Sit
- 4-5 Walk
- 6 Stand

Forgive one another *as God in Christ* forgave you

I. Walk in Love

1 Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.

Be like your Dad

- **Dear Children:** Beloved, Esteemed, Favorite
- **Imitators:** gr. *mim-ay-tace'* mimic

Jesus is like His Dad

John 5:19b ...the Son can do nothing of Himself, but **what He sees the Father do**; for **whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner**. 20 For the **Father loves the Son**, and shows Him all things that He Himself does...

As we imitate Jesus...We are imitating our Father
IOWs As Jesus is...so we should be

1 John 4:17 ...as **He is, so are we in this world.**

- **As we imitate Jesus** we imitate the Father...Holy, Merciful, Perfect

1 Peter 1:15 He who called you is holy, you also **be holy** in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, "**Be holy, for I am holy.**"

Luke 6:36 ...**be merciful, just as your Father** also is merciful.

Matthew 5:48 ...**be perfect**, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

- **Holy:** Set apart to God from Sin
- **Merciful:** Show undeserved compassion
- **Perfect:** gr. *tel'-i-os* Needing nothing to be complete. IOW God is enough

Matthew 19:21 [Jesus to rich ruler] "If you want to **be perfect**, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

- As we imitate Jesus we imitate the Father. Acts 10:38 ...went about doing good.

2 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.**

- **Walk:** lit. Regulate one's life. To conduct one's self as Jesus did

Walk like Jesus by Walking in Love. Radical Love

John 15:9 As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you...

John 13:34 [New commandment] ...as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

Real Love means Death

1 John 3:16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

His Sacrifice was a Sweet-smelling Aroma to His Father?
Real Love: A life completely consumed for another

Exodus 29:18 ... you shall burn the whole ram on the altar. It is a burnt offering to the Lord; it is a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to the Lord

Jesus was completely consumed on the Altar of the Cross for our sake
His death was a sweet aroma to His Father knowing it was selfless

2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Hebrews 12:2 ...look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame...

Live a Life of Selfless Love

3 But **fornication** and all **uncleanness** or **covetousness**, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; **4** neither **filthiness**, nor **foolish talking**, nor **coarse jesting**, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

Romans 13:9 ...the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all **summed up** in this saying, namely, "**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**"

IOWs If we love one another we will NOT commit adultery, murder, slander etc.
We will not live lives unfitting for Saints of God...

1. **Fornication:** Sex outside marriage. Shacking up. Marring the beautiful picture of Christ and His bride. Destroying society. Playing house. No commitment. Not God's plan. Disrespect
2. **Uncleanness/Covetousness:** Lusting for that which is impure. Using others as objects
3. **Filthiness:** Obscene. Opposite Holy. Purposefully dwelling on filth. Nothing to give to others
4. **Foolish Talking:** Silly godless talk stealing from the hearer
5. **Coarse Jestings:** Dirty joking filling the mind listener with filth

5 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.

1 Corinthians 6:9 Do you not know that the unrighteous **will not inherit the kingdom of God**? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, **10** nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. **11** **And such were some of you. But** you were washed, **but**

you were sanctified, **but** you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Warning!!! To those walking in the flesh...

6 Let no one **deceive you with empty words**, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not be partakers with them.

Don't be Deceived by Empty Words of False Comfort

Hebrews 10:28 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 Of **how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God** underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and **insulted the Spirit of grace?**

Walk in Love Evidence you belong to God who is Love. Children of Love
Walk in Light Evidence you belong to God who is Light. Children of Light

II. Walk in Light

8 For **you were once darkness**, but **now you are light** in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), 10 finding out what is **acceptable to the Lord.**

Darkness now Light...Death now Life
Works of the Flesh now Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22 ...the fruit [change] of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control.**

Walk in the Light...

11 And have **no fellowship** with the **unfruitful works of darkness**, but rather **expose them**. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. 13 But all things that are exposed are made **manifest by the light**, for **whatever makes manifest is light.**

2 Corinthians 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And **what communion has light with darkness?**

Don't condone sin by cooperating with darkness
Expose sin by simply walking in the Light [Things of God by Spirit of God]

- E.g. Jesus ate w/sinners who were **open to the truth/attracted to the Light**

Jesus did not let Darkness Call the Shots...
Jesus did not Dim His Light to Comfort Sinners

- **We are not to condone** sin by cooperating with darkness
- **We are to expose** sin by simply walking in Jesus Light

Those who desire Salvation will be attracted/Those who don't will run

14 Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light."

The man who is asleep does not care what becomes of his neighbors; how can he while he is asleep? And oh! Some of you Christians do not care whether souls are saved or damned ...**It is enough for them if they are comfortable.** [Spurgeon]

Romans 13:11 ... it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

We are not to condone sin by cooperating with darkness
We are to expose darkness by walking in the Light

Walk in Love Evidence you belong to God who is Love. Children of Love
Walk in Light Evidence you belong to God who is Light. Children of Light
Walk in Wisdom Evidence you belong to God who possesses all Wisdom...

III. Walk in Wisdom

15 See then that you walk circumspectly [carefully], not as fools but as wise,
16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Conduct Yourselves Carefully/Circumspectly/Eyes Open
Aware of the Times and Surroundings

1 Chronicles 12:32 [David's Army] ...the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do

Esther 1:13 [Pagan King Xerxes called for] ...wise men who understood the times

How much more should God's People w/God's Spirit

1) Understand the Times 2) Know what to do in these days of Evil...

- Opening of 2024 Summer Olympics in France
 1. Headless Mary Antoinette
 2. Perverse mockery of Last Supper
 3. False Deity Dionysus under Serving dish

Dionysus: Greek god of wine, festivity, and theater, and is also associated with fertility, vegetation, orchards, fruit, **insanity, and religious ecstasy.**



Response? Not outrage. Redeem the Time/Walk in Wisdom

Luke 17:26 ...as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: 27 They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. 28 Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they

built; 29 but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. 30 Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

- **Days of Noah:** Wickedness/Demonic activity/Oblivious to coming judgment

Genesis 6:4 There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.⁵ Then **the Lord saw that the wickedness** of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually ...⁷ So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." **8 ...But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.**

Lifted out of the wrath of God by Wood and Nails

- **Day of Lot:** In your face perversion. Godlessness in people of all ages. Blasphemy

Genesis 18:20 [God to Abe] ... "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because **their sin is very grave**, 21 I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know." [Abe haggles with God to save Sodom if 50, 45, 40] ...³² Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: **Suppose ten should be found there?**" And He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of ten."

There was not Ten. Two Angels Leave to Destroy Sodom
Stay the Night with Lot in the City

Genesis 19:4 Now before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, **both old and young, all the people from every quarter**, surrounded the house. 5 And they called to Lot and said to him, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them carnally." ... ⁹ And they said, "Stand back!" Then they said, "This one came in to stay here, and he keeps acting as a judge; now we will deal worse with you than with them." So they pressed hard against the man Lot, and came near to break down the door. 10 But the men reached out their hands and pulled Lot into the house with them, and shut the door. 11 And they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they became weary trying to find the door ... ¹⁵ When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city." 16 And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, **the Lord being merciful to him**, and they brought him out and set him outside the city.

Kept from the Wrath of God by the Mercy of God

Revelation 3:10 [Philadelphia] Because you have kept My command to persevere, **I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world**, to test those who dwell on the earth.

Things are Winding Up/Winding Down: As in the Days of Noah/Days of Lot
Redeem the Time/Walk in Wisdom/You are here for this time in His-story

Esther 4:14b ...Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

- **Our time to Walk in Wisdom:** Not meandering like fools
 1. **Discretion:** Taking time to understand and do accordingly
 2. **Discernment:** Supernatural understanding not based only on senses
 3. **Discipline:** To keep under control by yielding to the Spirit

Colossians 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time.

- **Walk in Efficiency/Effectiveness:** Redeeming the time left
- **Not as fools:** Oblivious to the battle thus ineffective. **Instead...**

Walk in Wisdom knowing the times and need: The Days are Evil so Gird Up

- Israel our Time Piece

Saturday 7/27/24 MAGDALA, Israel — Israel's foreign minister, Israel Katz, said Saturday that Israel faces "all-out war" after a rocket fired by Hezbollah at the Israeli Druze Arab village of Majdal Shams killed at least twelve people, including children, on Saturday evening. Children from ages ten to twelve were playing a soccer game when the rocket hit the field. According to an eyewitness interviewed by Israel's Channel 13, a warning siren only sounded as the impact happened.

17 Therefore do not be unwise but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Romans 12:2b ...be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

- Prerequisites to knowing God's will
 1. **Yield** ourselves to God completely
 2. **Refuse** to be conformed to the world system
 3. **Transform/Renewed** by Word/Spirit of God

Do not be unwise/lazy not knowing/caring what is the will of the Lord
Open His Word/Listen for His Word/Listen to His Word/Obey His Word

18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Don't be controlled by mind altering substances but by the Spirit of God
When the Holy Spirit takes over everything changes and no red eyes

- v19 **Our Countenance:** Psalms/Hymns to one another
- v20 **Our Attitudes:** Gratitude/Thankfulness to God
- v21 **Our Relationships:**

Treating one another as more important than ourselves...

Radically Different than the World. Thank God

Philippians 2:1 ...if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, 2 fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. 3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each **esteem others better than himself**. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others...

Therefore be imitators of God as His dear children
Walk in Love. Walk in Light. Walk in Wisdom