EPHESIANS THE SOBER: STUPOR VS SOBER

Paul, having walked the Ephesians through the glorious truth of the gospel, the doctrines of the Christian faith, now continues to walk the Ephesians church how to live, or in Pauline language: how to walk.

In Ephesians 5:1-22 continues teaching on the walk of the Ephesians by calling them to "walk in love," to "walk in the light," and to "look carefully at how [they] walk" (Eph 5:2, 8, 15). All of this is a call for the Christian to be carefully faithful to Christ in this life. All this sounds like a lot of walking – and it makes me tired just thinking of it! Where do the Ephesians get the strength and endurance to consistently walk this way?

The answer comes when Paul exhorts the Ephesians not to be "drunk with wine, but be filled with the Spirit."

So, the ability to walk in a manner worthy of their calling comes from a desire to be filled with the Spirit of God. So, walking in a worthy manner is not simply a duty to perform, but a desire that is to be pursued. This is the expulsive power of a new affection for Christ. When we love Christ, that love expels from us the desires for this world and the lusts of it.

Let's dig in to see how to walk in a manner worthy of our calling!

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READ THE TEXT

Ephesians 5:1-21

DISCUSSION

Any thoughts, questions, highlights, or comments on today's message?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

- 1. What do we learn about God?
- 2. What do we learn about people?
- 3. What do we learn about relating to God?
- 4. What do we learn about relating to others?

APPLYING THE TEXT

- 5. What does God want me to understand?
- 6. What does God want me to believe?
- 7. What does God want me to desire?
- 8. What does God want me to do?