

*“Therefore:” The Logical Lifestyle of a Hopeful Minority*

**Therefore, Soberly Stand Your Post**

Ephesians 5:15–18

Page 978 in the Chair Bible

The Lord’s Day Morning

March 26, 2017

As Paul writes the letter to the Ephesians from a Roman prison, constantly guarded by professional soldiers, he is mindful that followers of Christ are at war against a cunning enemy (6:10–13). The enemy’s weapons are variations of deception that are designed to seduce us into sin and away from Jesus. The enemy exploits our weaknesses and delights in our carelessness. And there is no one easier to deceive and detach from reality than the one who has had too much to drink.

Procedures prescribed in Eph. 5:15–18

1. Choose your steps \_\_\_\_\_: Don’t underestimate the \_\_\_\_\_ (15).
2. Spend your time \_\_\_\_\_: Don’t waste your life out of the \_\_\_\_\_ (16).
3. Interpret your orders \_\_\_\_\_: Don’t fall for distortions of \_\_\_\_\_ (17).
4. Stand your post \_\_\_\_\_: Don’t aid and abet the enemy with \_\_\_\_\_ (18).

Practices permitted in Scripture

1. \_\_\_\_\_ alcohol for yourself in order to avoid temptation (1 Cor. 9:11,25; 10:13,14,24,31; Ro. 14:1,21).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ alcohol only in a way that avoids intoxication (Ps. 104:14,15; Mt. 11:19; Jn. 2:10; 1 Tim. 4:4; 1 Tim. 5:23).

Practices prohibited in Scripture

1. \_\_\_\_\_ alcohol for all others and judge their convictions (Ro. 14:10).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ alcohol to the point of intoxication (Pr. 20:1; 31:4,5; 1 Cor. 5:11; 6:9; Gal. 5:21)