



EPHESIANS 5 PART 3

Have you ever done something and immediately thought, *"That was not my brightest moment"*? We've all been there. In the rush of life, it's easy to act without thinking, to walk carelessly without considering the consequences. But what if we were called to something more? What if every step we took was meant to be intentional, careful, and filled with purpose?

Our calling as believers is a radical shift from shadow to reality, from following a code to embracing a relationship. In the Old Covenant, wisdom began with reverence for the Lord, and His word was a lamp for the path. But in Christ, that reverence blossoms into a personal connection with Wisdom Himself, for Jesus is the living "Light of the world" we now follow through these dark and evil days. We walk circumspectly today by measuring every piece of modern advice against the ultimate truth that in Christ, "are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Our worship is no longer an external animal sacrifice but the internal surrender of our entire lives as a "living sacrifice". This is only possible because the Holy Spirit no longer merely comes upon a select few for a task, but permanently indwells every believer to empower a life of holiness and obedience. This is our high calling: to walk carefully, guided not by a distant set of rules, but by the vibrant, moment-by-moment counsel of the indwelling Spirit as we follow the very person of Light and Wisdom through the world

Study Questions:

1. How does the Old Testament concept of wisdom, rooted in the "fear of the LORD," find its ultimate fulfillment in the New Testament's revelation of Christ as the "wisdom of God"? (Proverbs 9:10; Job 28:28; 1 Corinthians 1:24; Colossians 2:2-3)
2. The Old Testament required specific sacrifices for atonement and worship. How does the "once for all" sacrifice of Jesus transform our understanding of worship into a "living sacrifice" offered through our daily conduct? (Leviticus 1:1-4; Hebrews 10:10-14; Romans 12:1; 1 Peter 2:5)
3. In the Old Covenant, the Holy Spirit empowered individuals for specific tasks. How does the New Covenant promise of the indwelling Spirit for every believer change the way we approach personal holiness and daily obedience? (Numbers 11:25; 1 Samuel 16:13; John 14:16-17; 1 Corinthians 3:16)
4. Since "the days are evil," how does our practical, moment-by-moment walk of circumspection change when we move from primarily viewing God's Word as a "lamp to our feet" (a guide to follow) to actively abiding in Jesus as the "Light of the world" (a person to follow)? (Psalm 119:105; Isaiah 9:2; John 8:12; Ephesians 5:8, 16)
5. In your personal search for guidance, what are the modern-day "counselors" you often turn to for wisdom (e.g., books, experts, podcasts, cultural trends)? How does the advice they offer either align with or contradict the ultimate wisdom that comes from God, which is fully revealed and embodied in the person of Christ? (Proverbs 2:6; Proverbs 11:14; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Colossians 2:3; James 1:5)