

“Walking In Wisdom”
Ephesians 5:15-17
New Years Message: Sunday Morning January 1, 2012

“Warning!” Eph. 5:15

Romans 12:2

Background: The book of Ephesians – Theme is “Our Riches In Christ”; Ephesians 1-3 Is Doctrine (What God Has Done); Ephesians 4-6 Is Duty (What We Should Do).

1. Verse 15 – Wisdom – Is Walking Carefully

2. Verse 16 – Wisdom – Is Making Use Of Our Time

3. Verse 17 – Wisdom – Is Understanding God's Will

1. Verse 15 – Wisdom – Is Walking Carefully:

Eph 5:15

“Therefore,” – or “See then”; This section in Ephesians 4:17-5:17 is speaking about “Walking in Holiness.”

“Walking in light”; which is walking in truth, and purity. Eph. 5:14

“be careful how you walk,” – (K.J.V. walk circumspectly), a word taken from Latin, meaning “looking” and “around”; the Greek word “akribos”, It is the word by which we get “Acrobat”

“not as unwise men,” – (not as fools) Describes “a person of moral laxity”

There are 2 types of “unwise men, fools” or (Atheists)

1. Theological Atheists – The denial in the existence of God.

Ps. 53:1

Prov. 10:8

Prov. 23:9

2. Practical Atheists – Believing in God but living without seeking His guidance. Living everyday lives that don't include God.

Proverbs 5:12-14

An Unwise Person – Building Relationships With Ungodly/Unspiritual Persons: Psalm 1:1

1 Corinthians 15:33

An Unwise Person – Calls Leisure Time:

An Unwise Person – Finances/Resources:

“but as wise,” – “skilled, expert, learned”; When we speak of “Wisdom”, we need to keep two things in mind:

1. Wisdom Through Regeneration – (New Birth, Born again)

Eph. 1:7-9

2. Wisdom Through Sanctification – Yielding to the Holy Spirit and the Word.

Psalms 19:7

Prov 1:5

1 Cor. 2:12-16

We Must Decide: Will we walk Carefully in wisdom or foolishness? Consult God through His Word, yield to the Holy Spirit, or live like the world?

2. Verse 16 – Wisdom – Is Making Use Of Our Time:

Eph 5:16

“making the most” – (K.J.V redeem) “redeem by payment of a price, to recover from the power of another, to ransom, buy off, to buy up for one's self”

“your time” – the individuals measurement of time.

Psalm 90:12

Col. 4:5 opportunity – Is made up of two Latin words: “Toward the port”

Time Is Irreversible:

Time Is Irreplaceable:

Time Is Precious:

Let me suggest some areas:

1. A Deeper Relationship with God.
2. Building Relationships.

Extend forgiveness before you are asked to

3. Service To God And Others. 1 Peter 4: 10

Gal. 6: 9-10

Service To Others – Ask God to show you how you can minister show love in specific ways to someone

“because the days are evil.” – “a bad nature, or condition, evil wicked”

Examine – how you are making use of time:

3. Verse 17 – Wisdom – Is Understanding God's Will:

Eph 5: 17

“So then” – Therefore, Christians have a new nature, operating in wisdom. Christians have been given a specific amount of time; need to use the time given because there is not much time left.

“do not be foolish,” – “senseless, stupid” without reflection or intelligence.

“but understand” – “to set or bring together, to set or join together in the mind” God wants us to use the mind that He has given to us with the wisdom.

“what the will of the Lord is.” – The wise not only know the will of God, but they understand

When we speak of the will of God:

The General Will Of God – the Bible contains principles that are clearly laid out on how we can be in His will.

The Particular Will Of God – like, who should I marry, should I buy this house or car? The type of the will of God can be understood after prayer, reading of scripture, careful thought and the counsel of mature Christians.

The General Will Of God – Rom. 12:1-2

“Will of God,” it was used 434X

1 Pet. 2:15

John 7:17

1. The Word: Ps. 119:105

2. Holy Spirit: John 16:13

3. Life Situations: Rom. 8:28

John 4:34

Plan – how you will live your life, Understanding God's Will:

Application:

1. Make Corporate Worship A Priority
2. Give Full Attention When In A Service
3. Application
4. Those Attending 6 Months Or Longer Have the Privilege of Serving
5. Be Committed To Growth In 2012
6. Pray For The Pastors and Wives, Staff, Leadership, Services, Ministries, Preparation time for study, Delivery of the Word