

Series "Our Riches In Christ"
"Walking In Wisdom"
Ephesians 5:15-17
Study-18

Ephesians 4:17-5:17 – "The Walk of Purity"

- 1. Walk in a worthy manner. Ephesians 4:1**
- 2. Walk not like the non-Christian. Ephesians 4:17**
- 3. Walk in love. Ephesians 5:2**
- 4. Walk in light. Ephesians 5:8**
- 5. Walk in wisdom. Ephesians 5:15**

The two greatest enemies of time are:

1. Regrets for things we did in the past.
2. Anxiety about what will happen to us in the future.

Thought Of The Passage: "In Christ, The Believer Receives Wisdom To Walk Carefully, Through Utilizing The Time And Understanding God's Will."

- 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:

Ephesians 5:15 – "Therefore," – or "See then." When we see the "Therefore," we need to ask ourselves "What is the "therefore" there for?" Ephesians 4:17– 5:17 is speaking about "Walking in Purity" (Holiness).

Ephesians 5:14 – Don't sleepwalk as a child of God!

"be careful how you walk," – (K.J.V. circumspectly), is a Latin word made up of two words, meaning "looking, around." The Greek word, "akribos," from this we get our word "Acrobat;" means "diligently, perfectly, exactly, accurately."

"not as unwise men," – not as fools; unwise, foolish. This describes a person of moral laxity. There is no fear of God, there is no fear of the judgment of God.

There are 2 types of "unwise men, fools":

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

Psalm 53:1; Proverbs 10:8; 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 – Leisure Time.

An Unwise Person – Finances/Resources.

"but as wise," – "skilled, expert, learned." When we speak of "Wise, Wisdom," We need to keep 2 things in mind:

1. Wisdom Through Regeneration – New Birth, Born again, Ephesians 1:7-9.
2. Wisdom Through Sanctification – Yielding to the Holy Spirit and the Word; Skillful Living, Psalms 19:7.

Proverbs 1:5; 1 Corinthians 2:12-16

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

Ephesians 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" – not minutes, hours; It speaks to the individual that has a measure of time.

J.B. Philips – "Make the best use of your time, despite the difficulties of these days."

Psalm 90:12; Colossians 4:5 – "opportunity" – Is made up of two Latin words, "toward the port." It gives the picture of a ship taking advantage of the wind and tide to arrive safely into the harbor.

Characteristics of time:

Time Is Irreversible.

Time Is Irreplaceable.

Time Is Precious.

Let me suggest 3 areas to Examine:

1. A Deeper Relationship with God.

Time in the Word of God, Time in prayer, Time in worship and fellowship with other believers in Christ.

2. Building Relationships. Romans 12:18

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

Galatians 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.”

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

Ephesians 5:17 – “So then” – Therefore; Therefore what? 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, foolish, stupid,” without reflection or intelligence.

“but understand” – be wise, “to set or bring together, to set or join together in the mind, to understand.” 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, we are speaking of 2 specific areas:

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

2. The Particular Will Of God – like “who should I marry,” “should I buy this house or car?”

Romans 12:1-2

Term “Will of God,” it is used 434X.

We learn the will of God as our minds are being renewed by word, prayer, meditation, worship and fellowship.

1 Peter 2:15; John 7:17

1. The Word: Psalm 119:105
2. Holy Spirit: John 16:13
3. Life Situations: Romans 8:28

It is not just knowing the Word of God, but knowing what God is doing today, and history and our response to it.

John 4:34

Application:

1. Wisdom Calls For A Careful Walk. The Careful Walk Is Diligent And Accurate, Unlike The Unwise, Which Is Foolish With Moral Laxity.
2. Wisdom Is Making Use Of Our Time. The Wise Make Best Use Of Their Time, Despite The Difficulties Of These Days.
3. Wisdom Is Understanding God’s Will. The Wise Are Not To Be Senseless Or Foolish, Because The Wise, Through The Holy Spirit And The Word Of God, Can Understanding God’s Will.