

Study of Ephesians – Ephesians 5:1-21

Bellevue Church of Christ – Spring & Summer 2013

Be Imitators...

-1Co 4:16; 11:1
-1Th 2:14

I. A Call to Walk in Love (1-7)

Be Conscious of the Consequences (3-7)

1. Sexual immorality
2. Impurity
3. Covetousness
4. Filthiness
5. Foolish talk
6. Crude joking

Such have "no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God"

II. A Call to Walk in Light (8-14)

Their Former State

- 2:1 Dead in Sin
2:12 Separated from God
4:17-18 Darkened

Paraphrase of Isa 60:1

Compare to...

- Rom 13:11-14
- 1Th 5:1-10

III. A Call to Walk in Wisdom (15-21)

Gal 5:19-21 - Works of the Flesh (Foolishness)

Gal 5:22-23 - Fruit of the Spirit (Wisdom)

"Making Melody"

- ψάλλω psallō
- Literally, "to pluck," but here it is not the strings of an instrument, but instead the strings of our heart.

5:1-2 are a conclusion of the section that began in 4:25 where Paul examined "Old Self" vs. "New Self" as it relates to members of Christ's body. Final comparison was Malice vs. Love that began in 4:31.

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as **beloved children**. <-Eph 1:5; Rom 8:12-17; Gal 4:6-7

²And **walk in love** as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

³But **sexual immorality** and all **impurity** or **covetousness** must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.

⁴Let there be no **filthiness** nor **foolish talk** nor **crude joking**, which are out of place, but instead let there be **thanksgiving**.

⁵**For you may be sure of this**, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is **covetous** (that is, an **idolater**), has **no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God**.

⁶Let no one **deceive you with empty words**, for because of these things the **wrath of God** comes upon the **sons of disobedience**. <-Eph 2:2

⁷Therefore do not become partners with them;

⁸for at one time you were **darkness**, but now you are **light** in the Lord. **Walk as children of light**

⁹(for the fruit of **light** is found in all that is **good** and **right** and **true**), <-Opposite of those works described in 3-5

¹⁰and try to **discern what is pleasing to the Lord**. <-See v.17

¹¹Take no part in the **unfruitful works of darkness**, but instead expose them. As the works described in 3-5

¹²For it is shameful even to **speak of the things** that they do in secret.

¹³But when anything is exposed by the **light**, it becomes visible, <-Paul exposed the pagan world - Rom 1:18-32

¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is **light**. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

¹⁵Look carefully then how you **walk, not as unwise but as wise**.

¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. <-Col 4:5

¹⁷Therefore do not be **foolish**, but understand what the **will of the Lord** is. <-2Ti 3:14-17

¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be **filled with the Spirit**,

¹⁹**addressing** one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and **making melody** to the Lord with your heart,

²⁰**giving** thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

²¹**submitting** to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Which Way to Walk?

-Eph 4:1 "walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called"

-Eph 4:17 "no longer walk as the Gentiles do"

Works of the "Gentiles" (4:17) or "Old Self" (4:22)

Not Consistent with the Love of Christ

Compare to:

Rom 1:24-32

Gal 5:19-21

Thanksgiving: 2Co 4:15; 9:11; Eph 5:20; Col 4:2

Covetous = Idolatry (Col 3:5)

Light vs. Darkness

-Rom 13:11-14 "...put on the armor of light."

-Col 1:11-14 "...share in the inheritance of the saints in light."

-1Th 5:4-8 "For you are all children of light..."

-1Pe 2:9 "...that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

-1Jo 1:5-7 "God is light, and in him is no darkness at all"

Result of being "Filled With the Spirit"

• **Addressing (19)**
-Col 3:16

• **Giving (20)**
-v.4

• **Submitting (21)**
-Eph 5:22-6:9

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Which Way to Walk

Ephesians 4:1 (ESV)

¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

Ephesians 4:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds.

Be Imitators of God

1 Corinthians 4:16 (ESV)

¹⁶ I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

1 Corinthians 11:1 (ESV)

¹ Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

1 Thessalonians 2:14 (ESV)

¹⁴ For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea. For you suffered the same things from your own countrymen as they did from the Jews,

Beloved Children

Ephesians 1:5 (ESV)

⁵ he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

Romans 8:12–17 (ESV)

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Galatians 4:6–7 (ESV)

⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Works of the Gentiles / Old Self

Romans 1:24–32 (ESV)

²⁴ Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

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²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; ²⁷ and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

²⁸ And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

Galatians 5:19–21 (ESV)

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Sexual Immorality

4518 πορνεία (*porneia*), ας (*as*), ἡ (*hē*): n.fem.; ≡ DBLHebr 2388, 2393, 2394, 9373; Str 4202; TDNT 6.579—LN 88.271 **fornication**, sexual immorality, sexual sin of a general kind, that includes many different behaviors (Mt 5:32; 15:19; 19:9; Mk 7:21; Jn 8:41; Ac 15:20; 1Co 6:18; 7:2; 2Co 12:21; Gal 5:19; Eph 5:3; 1Th 4:3)¹

4202. πορνεία **porneia**; from 4203; *fornication*:—fornication(4), fornications(2), immoralities(1), immorality(16), sexual immorality(1), unchastity(1).²

Thanksgiving

2 Corinthians 4:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

2 Corinthians 9:11 (ESV)

¹¹ You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

Ephesians 5:20 (ESV)

²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

¹ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek (New Testament)*. Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

² Thomas, R. L. (1998). *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : updated edition*. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

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Colossians 4:2 (ESV)

² Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

Covetous = Idolatry

Colossians 3:5 (ESV)

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Light vs. Darkness

Romans 13:11–14 (ESV)

¹¹ Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Colossians 1:11–14 (ESV)

¹¹ May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

1 Thessalonians 5:4–8 (ESV)

⁴ But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵ For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶ So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

1 John 1:5–7 (ESV)

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Former State

Ephesians 2:1 (ESV)

¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins

Ephesians 2:12 (ESV)

¹² remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

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Ephesians 4:17–18 (ESV)

¹⁷ Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.

Awake, O Sleeper...

Isaiah 60:1 (ESV)

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Romans 13:11–14 (ESV)

¹¹ Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

1 Thessalonians 5:1–10 (ESV)

¹ Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵ For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶ So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

Works of the Flesh vs. Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:19–23 (ESV)

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Addressing One Another...

Colossians 3:16 (ESV)

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

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Making Melody

6010 ψάλλω (*psallō*): vb.; ≡ DBLHebr 2376, 5594; Str 5567; TDNT 8.489—LN 33.111 **sing praises**, make music with voice (Ro 15:9; 1Co 14:15; Eph 5:19; Jas 5:13+)³

5567. ψάλλω *psallō*; from ψάω *psaō* (*to rub*); *to pull, twitch, twang, play, sing*:—making melody(1), sing(3), sing praises(1).⁴

The verb “to make music” is *psallō*, from which “psalm” is derived. It can mean playing a stringed instrument (literally, “to pluck”) or singing praise to the accompaniment of a harp. Here it describes the heart’s inner melody that keeps in tune with audible praise or may be independent of any outward expression. If it is offered “to the Lord,” it does not need to be heard by men.⁵

³ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek (New Testament)*. Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

⁴ Thomas, R. L. (1998). *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : updated edition*. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

⁵ Wood, A. S. (1981). *Ephesians*. (F. E. Gaebelin, Ed.) *The Expositor’s Bible Commentary, Volume 11: Ephesians through Philemon* (p. 73). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.