Walking Wisely – Ephesians 5:15–17

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Walk as wise people – vs 15

Words: back, close, exactly, fear, intelligence, life, living, pleases, ready, transformed, wise, word

Paul continues to call us to examine our walk – our way of _____, how we live.

"Therefore" links _____ to the preceding verses, but also back to chapter 4:1.

"Be" translates "look" – to be _____ to learn; "careful" means accurately or _____.

Paul tells us to pay _____ attention to how we conduct our lives according to God's _____.

Just as at salvation we are sanctified, we are also made _____ – we are to grow in it.

The beginning of wisdom is to _____ God (Prov 1:7).

It is knowing God, knowing who we are and what _____ God.

Paul is not contrasting the intellectually clever with those who lack _____.

He is contrasting two fundamentally different ways of _____.

We are to walk differently to unbelievers; our minds have been _____.

1) Capture every opportunity – vs 16

Words: confession, do, evil, free, good, importance, opportunities, season, sensitive

"Make the most of" means to buy back or buy out – buying a slave to set them _____.

"Time" is "Kairos" - fixed _____ or epoch – there are boundaries to our lives.

To walk wisely is to buy up or take advantage of the _____ that present themselves.

Each day will present opportunities to do _____ to others.

Are we _____ and zealous to take them (Gal 6:10)?

Philipp Melanchthon kept a record of every wasted moment and took it to God in _____.

God has given us each moment and opportunity – what will we _____ with them?

We live in an evil world which is becoming progressively more _____.

When life is fragile, evangelism and making the most of the time take on a different _____.

2) Understanding God's will – vs 17

Words: accomplish, foolish, hospitality, marry, mind, others, please, revealed, Scriptures, seeks, take, understanding, will

To take every opportunity to do God's work, we need to know the _____ of the Lord.

Paul starts by telling us not to be _____.

This means lacking sound judgement or _____ (Prov 12:15; 18:2).

It is not that they don't have the opportunity – they don't _____ it.

The wise man _____ the will of the Lord – this ties in with verse 10.

Christians normally want to know God's will about a job, moving town or who to _____.

We need to differentiate between God's sovereign will and God's _____ will.

His sovereign will is what God has purposed to _____ (Eph 1:11; Deut 29:29).

His revealed will is what He has made known through the _____.

This includes all the walk analogies and being renewed in your _____.

Don't neglect the fellowship and _____ (Heb 13:2; 10:23–25).

We are called to understand – to think through and ask _____.

With a new job that pays more but takes time from family, ask what will _____ the Lord.

OUR JOURNEY THROUGH EPHESIANS

CHAPTERS 1–3 — THEOLOGY
What God has done for us in Christ

THEREFORE...
Ephesians 4:1

CHAPTERS 4–6 — PRACTICAL
How we live because of who we are in Christ

THEOLOGY

CHAPTER 1
Our Riches in Christ

Every spiritual blessing is ours in Christ.

Chosen by the Father
Redeemed by the Son
Sealed by the Spirit

CHAPTER 2
From Death to Life
From Strangers to Family

Dead in sin → made alive by grace.

Separated → brought near → united → built together.

CHAPTER 3
The Mystery Revealed

Jew and Gentile made one body in Christ.

The church displays God's wisdom → strengthened to know Christ's love → filled with God.

Everything God has done prepares us for how we are now called to live.

PRACTICAL

CHAPTER 4
Walking Worthy of Our Calling

Walk in unity · Grow towards maturity
Put off the old self · Put on the new.

Speak truth · Serve · Build one another up
Forgive as God forgave us in Christ.

CHAPTER 5 — THE JOURNEY SO FAR

5:1–2 · Walk in love
Love sacrificially, as Christ loved us.

5:3–6 · True Love or Counterfeit Love?
True love gives; counterfeit love takes.

5:7–14 · Walk as children of light
Reject darkness; live in the light.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

WALKING WISELY — EPHESIANS 5:15–17

Pay close attention to how you live — walk as wise people.

1) CAPTURE EVERY OPPORTUNITY
Ephesians 5:16

Make the most of the time,
because the days are evil.
Take the opportunities God gives
to do good to others.

2) UNDERSTANDING GOD'S WILL
Ephesians 5:17

Do not be foolish, but understand
what the will of the Lord is.
Let His revealed Word guide you.
Ask: What will please the Lord?

One body in Christ. Many parts. One purpose: His glory.
1 Corinthians 12:12–27