Being Filled with the Spirit – Ephesians 5:18

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1) The Prohibition – Do not get drunk – vs 18a

Words: characterise, control, discipline, intoxicated, mind, negative, sin, unwise, waste

Paul starts with the _____ command.

"Drunk" means to become _____.

It is the clouding or disruption of a person's _____ so that it affects their faculties.

It has many degrees – starts when normal body and mind functions are hindered – loss of _____.

Becoming drunk is a _____ (Gal 5:19–21; 1 Pet 4:3).

See the relationship between drunkenness and being _____ (Prov 20:1).

Paul told us to redeem the time – drunkenness makes you _____ time (Prov 23:29–35).

Drunkenness should never _____ a Christian.

We are called to take every thought captive and _____ our bodies (2 Cor 10:5; 1 Cor 9:24–27).

2) The Consequence – For it is dissipation – vs 18b

Words: bankruptcy, benefits, restraint, wasteful

"Dissipation" is reckless, _____ behaviour showing lack of concern for the consequences.

Associated with a lack of moral _____.

Drunkenness has no _____ – it wastes time and often causes trouble and harm.

In many cases even _____ (Luke 15:13).

3) The Command – Be filled with the Spirit – vs 18c

Words: church, Christians, contrast, controlling, damages, done, filled, fullness, God, imperative, means, rely, responsibility, submission, unity, unwise, word, work

"But" – here we have the _____; Paul has just given an example of _____, foolish living.

Drunkenness _____ the individual and relationships.

Being filled by the Spirit produces _____ and builds up the church.

Now he says to live wisely we need to be _____ with the Spirit.

What does Paul mean by "filled"? To live under the _____ influence of the Spirit.

This is not some emotional experience – it is a daily _____ to the Holy Spirit's control.

"Be filled" is present passive _____: a command, ongoing, being done to the Christian.

We are commanded to be filled, yet it is something _____ to us.

How does this work? God's sovereignty and human _____ work together (Phil 2:12–13).

God uses _____ to sanctify us:

- His _____ (Col 3:16; John 17:17),
- other _____ (Heb 3:13),
- and _____ (Eph 4:11–16; Heb 10:23–25).

As we are obedient to these activities, we _____ on the Spirit to produce sanctification in us.

Paul has already spoken of being filled to all the fulness of _____ (Eph 3:19)

And to the _____ of Christ (Eph 4:13).

This is God's _____ and He does it through or by His Spirit.

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.

5:15–17 · Walking Wisely
Make the most of the time; understand God's will.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

BEING FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT — EPHESIANS 5:18

Walk wisely by living under the controlling influence of the Spirit.

1) THE PROHIBITION
Ephesians 5:18a

Do not get drunk.
Drunkenness clouds the mind and brings loss of control.
It should never characterise a Christian.

2) THE CONSEQUENCE
Ephesians 5:18b

For it is dissipation.
Reckless, wasteful behaviour shows no concern for the consequences.
It causes trouble and harm.

3) THE COMMAND
Ephesians 5:18c

Be filled with the Spirit.
Continually submit to His control.
God works through His Word, other Christians and the church to make us more like Christ.

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