

Imitating God – Part 2 – Ephesians 5:1-17

- I. Introduction – John 1:9, 8:12, Ch. 9
- II. Review of Imitating God – Part 1
 - a. Logical outcome of Paul’s lesson on Holy Living in Ch. 4 (4:24, 32)

Ephesians 4:1-17: **1**Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; **2**and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. **3**But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; **4**and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. **5**For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an 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. **7**Therefore do not be partakers with them; **8**for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light **9**(for the fruit of the Light *consists* in all goodness and righteousness and truth), **10**trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. **11**Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; **12**for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. **13**But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light.

14For this reason it says, “Awake, And arise from the dead, And Christ will shine on you.”

15Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, **16**making the most of your time, because the days are evil. **17**So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is

- III. 3 Instructions for Imitating God –
 - a. Walking in Love –
 - i. What Love Is – 4:32-5:2
 - ii. What Love Is Not – 5:3-6

- b. Walking as Children of Light – 5:7-14

Focusing on verse 14, seeking to understand the purpose of being light in the world. Other verses that speak about light in the world are Isaiah 49:6, John 1:9, John 3:19-20, Matthew 5:14-16

- i. Step # 1 – Not partaking any longer in _____. Vv. 7, 8, 11; Col 1:13; 1Peter 2:9-10
 - 1. The two extremes that Christians can have –

2. The examples of John the Baptist and Jesus – Mt. 11:16-19; Luke 5:30-32

ii. Step # 2 – Learning what is _____ to the Lord.
Vv. 9-10; 1 John 1:5-7; Isaiah 5:20; Psalm 119:105; Rom 12:2

iii. Step # 3 - _____ Darkness – vv. 11-13

1. Non-Verbal –

2. Verbal –

a. Takes Grace (Colossians 4:6)

b. Takes Being Prepared (Eph 6:15)

c. Takes Prayer (Eph 6:19, 20)

The Promise – Ephesians 5:13

c. Walking in Wisdom