THE CHRISTIAN WALK

SCRIPTURE – 1 John 2:3–6 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴ He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. ⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

INTRODUCTION

- A. 1 John 2:6 says as Christians we out to walk as Jesus walked.
- B. 1 John says a lot about how we should walk as Christians.
- C. But tonight, we are going to look at our walk as found in the book of Ephesians.

I. THE WICKED WALK OF THE PAST.

- A. Ephesians 2:1–3 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.
- B. Some of us grew up in the church and never had a lifestyle being controlled by sin
- C. Others of us have sunk to the lowest levels of depravity of sinful living.
- D. But all of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
- E. Each of us need the sacrifice of Jesus to save us from our sins.

II. THE WORKING WALK.

- A. Ephesians 2:4–10 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.
- B. We were dead in our sin and Jesus made us alive again by His grace we were saved.
- C. We should show our appreciation by working and living for His since He died for us.

III. THE WORTHY WALK.

- A. Ephesians 4:1–6 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to <u>walk worthy of</u> the calling with which you were called, ² with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³ endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.
- B. Lowliness and gentleness
- C. Longsuffering, bearing with one another in love
- D. Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace

1. One body

4. One Lord

7. One God

2. One Spirit

5. One faith

3. One hope

6. One baptism

E. We should walk to honor and please the Lord.

IV. THE WORTHLESS WALK.

- A. Ephesians 4:17–24 This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that **you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind**, ¹⁸ having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; ¹⁹ who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ²⁰ But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹ if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²² that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³ and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴ and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.
- B. A futile walk
- C. A walk in darkness
- D. A walk of ignorance
- E. A walk of blindness
- F. A walk past feeling
- G. A walk sinfulness
 - 1. Lewdness
 - 2. Uncleanness
 - 3. greediness

V. THE WINNING WALK.

- A. Ephesians 5:1–7 Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. ² And <u>walk in love</u>, <u>as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us</u>, <u>an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.</u> ³ But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; ⁴ neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. ⁵ For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶ Let 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.
- B. A walk imitating God
- C. A walk in love and sacrifice
- D. A walk rejecting sin
 - 1. Fornication

4. Filthiness

7. disobedience

2. Uncleanness

- 5. Foolish talking
- 3. Coveteousness
- 6. Coarse jesting
- E. You can win through love when you cannot any other way. 1 Corinthians 13:1–8, 13 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. ² And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing ⁴ Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; ⁵ does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; ⁶ does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.... ¹³ And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

VI. THE WISE WALK.

- A. Ephesians 5:8–14 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), ¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. ¹¹ And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. ¹³ But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. ¹⁴ Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light."
- B. A walk turning from darkness to light
- C. A walk of goodness
- D. A walk of righteousness
- E. A walk in truth
- F. A walk exposing the unfruitful works of darkness

VII. THE WATCHFUL WALK.

- A. Ephesians 5:15–21 See then that you <u>walk circumspectly</u>, not as fools but as wise, ¹⁶ redeeming the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of God.
- B. A walk carefully considering all circumstances and possible consequences.
- C. A walk wisely using your time make up for the former misuse of it.
- D. A walk understanding the will of the Lord
- E. A walk being controlled by God's Spirit rather than substances like alcohol and drugs
- F. A walk praising and thankfulness to God
- G. A life of submission to one another in the fear of God

CONCLUSION - HOW IS YOUR WALK?

- The Wicked Walk Of The Past.
- 2. The Working Walk.
- 3. The Worthy Walk.
- 4. The Worthless Walk.
- 5. The Winning Walk.
- 6. The Wise Walk.
- 7. The Watchful Walk.