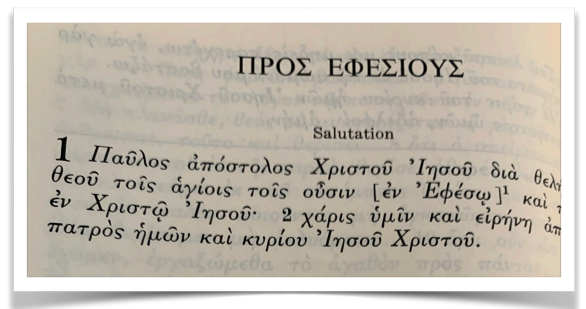


Paul's Letter to the CHURCH AT EPHESUS



Ephesians 5

(EPHESIANS 5)

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

BEING IMITATORS OF GOD

- ❖ Considering the word “therefore”, how is the end of chapter 4 connected to the beginning of chapter 5?
- ❖ Are there other places in the Bible that call on us to imitate God? Where?
- ❖ What is the image Paul is drawing for us as “imitators of God as beloved children”?
- ❖ What kind of love must we have toward others?
 - ❖ Is such a love selfish?
 - ❖ Is such a love exclusive?
 - ❖ What kind of sacrifice is such a love willing to make?
 - ❖ “Fragrant aroma” is the NT version of “soothing aroma” in the OT. What does the word “soothing” imply that Christ’s sacrifice did for the Father?

BEING IMITATORS OF GOD

- ❖ What are these things that must not even be named among God’s holy people?
 - ❖ immorality (fornication) — what is included?
 - ❖ impurity
 - ❖ greed
- ❖ What does it mean that these things should not even be named among Christians?

or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an 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; 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.

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

- ❖ What are these...?
 - ❖ filthiness and silly talk
 - ❖ coarse jesting
- ❖ Why should avoid these things? (v. 5)
 - ❖ In what way is covetousness idolatry?
- ❖ What sorts of “persuasive arguments” have you heard to try to convince you or others that the above things are OK?
- ❖ What will happen to those who do these things?
- ❖ Therefore do not be _____ with them? What does this mean? Is it OK to “go along to get along”?
- ❖ Meanings of...
 - ❖ Darkness
 - ❖ Light
 - ❖ What it means to walk as children of light...
 - ❖ What is the fruit of the Light?
 - ❖ _____
 - ❖ _____
 - ❖ _____
 - ❖ How do we learn what is pleasing to the Lord?
 - ❖ Why are deeds of darkness *unfruitful*?
 - ❖ What does it mean to “expose them”?
 - ❖ What light (v. 12) is Paul speaking of when he says that the light exposes deeds done in darkness?
 - ❖ It is thought that v. 14 may be an early Christian hymn probably used at baptismal ceremonies.
 - ❖ What does it mean?
 - ❖ Who is the sleeper?
 - ❖ What kind of death is referred to here?

¹⁵ Therefore 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. ¹

⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; ²⁰ always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; ²¹ and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

²² Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the

- ❖ What does it mean that Christ will shine on you?
- ❖ What kind of wisdom is Paul encouraging here in vv. 15, 16?
- ❖ What does Paul mean by “the days are evil”?
- ❖ What is the difference between “knowing” the will of the Lord and “understanding” it?

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

- ❖ In vs. 19 Paul says that we should “speaking to one another”; what situation does this imply?
- ❖ Why would he be urging them not to get drunk in this situation?
 - ❖ Did this happen in the assembly? (see 1 Cor. 11:21)
 - ❖ What is “dissipation”?
- ❖ Instead, what are we to be filled with the _____
 - ❖ Speaking means...
 - ❖ What are...
 - ❖ psalms
 - ❖ hymns
 - ❖ spiritual songs
 - ❖ singing ado (αδω) means...
 - ❖ making melody psallo (ψαλλω) means...
 - ❖ What instrument are we to play?
 - ❖ Giving thanks...
 - ❖ through whom?
 - ❖ to whom?

MARRIAGE INSTRUCTIONS

- ❖ Verse 21 probably belongs to vv. 22-33 which teaches what about the marriage relationship?
- ❖ What are wives to do?

body. ²⁴ But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, ²⁶ so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. ²⁸ So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; ²⁹ for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of His body. ³¹ FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.

³² This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. ³³

Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

- ❖ As to whom?
- ❖ Why?
- ❖ What is the comparison he makes?
- ❖ What are husbands to do?
 - ❖ Who is their model?
 - ❖ What kind of love is this?
 - ❖ How did the Lord sanctify or cleanse the church?
 - ❖ The _____ of water (What is this?)
 - ❖ With the _____ (What is this?)
 - ❖ According to v. 27, what is the glory of the church?
 - ❖ A second metaphor for Christian husbands: the body
 - ❖ How do we treat our own bodies?
 - ❖ _____
 - ❖ _____
 - ❖ Just like _____ does the _____
 - ❖ What is Paul emphasizing or teaching by quoting this passage out of Adam's and Eve's "wedding"?
 - ❖ And the two shall become _____
 - ❖ What does this mean between husbands and wives?
 - ❖ ...between Christ and the church?
- ❖ Paul's summary...
 - ❖ What is the mystery that Paul is talking about?
 - ❖ This teaching has two applications...
 - ❖ _____ and _____
 - ❖ The _____
 - ❖ "each individual among you also is to _____ his own wife even as _____, and the wife must see to it that she _____ her husband."