

TRUTH & LIGHT

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“WALKING” IN EPHESIANS

Ephesians is a book of special value to the Christian. When we read this book, we are impressed with the words of the apostle Paul who encouraged them to remain faithful to the Lord so long as they lived upon this earth.

When writing to these brethren, he emphasized their need for “walking” and not “walking” a certain way. Seven times in the book of Ephesians the apostle mentions “walking”; twice it is mentioned in a negative sense and five times in a positive sense. Please read the verses below and let us make applications to ourselves.

The Word “Walk” In The Book Of Ephesians ...

2:2 “Wherein in time past ye **walked** according to the course of this

world,
according to the prince of the

*power of the air, the spirit
that now
worketh in the children of
disobedience:”*

2:10 “For we are his
workmanship, created in Christ
Jesus unto good

works,
which God hath before
ordained that we should **walk** in
them.”

4:1 “I therefore, the
prisoner of the Lord, beseech
you that ye **walk**

worthy of
the vocation wherewith ye are
called.”

4:17 “This I say
therefore, and testify in the
Lord, that ye henceforth

walk not
as other Gentiles walk, in the
vanity of their mind.”

5:2 “And **walk** in love,
as Christ also hath loved us,

and hath given

himself

for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a

sweetsme

lling savor."

5:8 "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord:

walk as

children of light."

5:15 "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise."

The Word "Walk" Has Meaning

The word "walk" implies a direction! We can only walk in one direction. Therefore, we choose one direction and reject the others. Notice in these seven references that Christians are told how to walk and not walk. Seeing that this is true, let us make sure we are walking in the direction described by God (Jer. 10:23)! To do so means walking in good works (Eph. 2:10), walking worthy of our vocation (Eph. 4:1), walking in love (Eph. 5:1), walking as children of light (Eph. 5:8), and walking circumspectly (Eph. 5:15). This is a tall order, isn't it? Yet, it is something that each Christian can do, else it would not be required of us.

To choose to "walk" according to the characteristics

named in Ephesians means we are not choosing to walk according to our selfish will or walk in the direction that the "majority" of this world does (Eph. 2:1-2, 4:17). Are we willing to stand out, to be a "peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14)? If so, then, let us walk in the right direction, and refuse to walk anymore in the way that the world does. Yes, it is difficult at times, but the end result will be a rest and reward in Heaven.

"Walking" Is A Continual Action

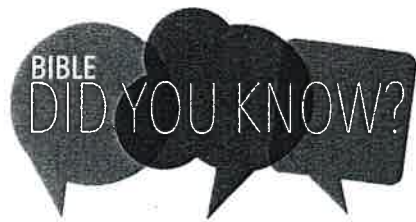
In addition to the above, let us realize that to walk in good works, worthy of our vocation, in love, as children of light, and circumspectly is not a one-time event. In fact, it is not an "event" at all, but a way of life! Therefore, if the Lord wills, we have a lifetime to improve, to hone our skills, to learn, and to be the best we can be (II Pet. 3:18). In other words, Christians will "*be faithful unto death*" (Rev. 2:10). They will "*be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord*" (I Cor. 15:58). This is what the "walking" in those five passages is all about!

Conclusion

It is high time we understood that Christians are

walking a certain direction – we are walking toward Heaven! In addition to the five verses in Ephesians which tell us how to walk so as to please God; we can also add Colossians 3:1-4, where the apostle speaks to the Christians at Colossae, reminding them that they need to have their affections set upon things above (Col. 3:2). When we set our sights upon Heaven, then we can walk in the right direction! If we will walk the right direction, then we will transform our lives to reflect the life of Christ (Rom. 12:1-2). If we will walk the right direction, we will walk in good works as Christ did good works (Eph. 2:10; Acts 10:38). We will walk worthy of our vocation, as Christ walked worthy of God (Eph. 4:1; I Pet. 2:22). We will walk in love as Christ walked in love (Eph. 5:1; II Cor. 5:14; Eph. 3:18-19). We will walk as children of light, following Christ, “*the light of the world*” (Eph. 5:8; Jn. 8:12, 9:5). We will walk circumspectly, just as Christ walked carefully while He was upon the earth (Eph. 5:15; I Pet. 2:21). When we follow the instructions laid out in Scripture, then we move closer to Christ! Isn’t this what we are striving for every day we live? If you haven’t been doing this, why not? To walk in this way means we also will do our best to avoid falling into the

trap of walking as the Gentiles or walking according to the course of this world. Having become Christians, we need to avoid that which will take us away from Christ. We need to live in such a way that we are moving closer to Him each day. When we “*walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin*” (I Jn. 1:7). What motivates you? In what direction are you walking, spiritually? Let us make sure we are walking in the right direction before it is too late! – Jarrod Jacobs



“Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth. Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips. A stone is heavy and the sand weighty, but the provocation of a fool is heavier than both of them.” Prov. 27:1-3

BIBLE TRIVIA

C H A L L E N G E

DIRECTIONS: After searching through your Bible, circle which answer is correct.

1. A leper bowed before Jesus and said, "If You are ____ You can make me clean."

- a) Pure
- b) Willing
- c) Powerful
- d) Discreet

2. Instead of coming to his house to heal, a centurion said, "Just ____."

- a) Clap Your Hands
- b) Send The Disciples
- c) Write A Letter
- d) Say The Word

3. Jesus healing fulfilled Isaiah: "He himself took our infirmities and carried away our ____."

- a) Diseases
- b) Money
- c) Confidence
- d) Relatives

4. Crying out in the storm, Jesus responded, "Why are you ____?"

- a) Anxious
- b) Worried
- c) Crying
- d) Afraid

5. After casting out demons, Jesus permitted them to enter a herd of ____.

- a) Swine
- b) Doughnuts
- c) Cattle
- d) Swallows

6. After stating the paralytic was forgiven, the scribes said, "This fellow ____."

- a) Stinks
- b) Lies
- c) Heals
- d) Blasphemes

7. Jesus called ____ sitting in the tax collectors booth.

- a) Andrew
- b) Mark
- c) Matthew
- d) Simon

8. Jesus said, "Go and learn what this means, 'I desire ____ and not sacrifice.'"

- a) Food
- b) Compassion
- c) Worship
- d) Righteousness

9. A woman thought, "If I only touch His ____ I will get well."

- a) Donkey
- b) Disciples
- c) Garment
- d) Hand

10. Jesus was laughed at when He said, "The girl has not died, but is ____."

- a) Bored
- b) Exhausted
- c) Pretending
- d) Asleep

- 1) B, Reference: Mt. 8:1-2
 2) D, Reference: Mt. 8:5-8
 3) A, Reference: Mt. 8:16-17
 4) D, Reference: Mt. 8:25-26
 5) A, Reference: Mt. 8:31-32
 6) D, Reference: Mt. 9:2-3
 7) C, Mt. 9:9
 8) B, Mt. 9:12-13
 9) C, Mt. 9:20-21
 10) D, Mt. 9:23-24