



Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the Southern United States



# The Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians

## Chapter 5

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# Introduction

- St. Paul continues exhorting us to walk in a manner worthy of our calling (4:1)
- Having described the need to walk in unity and in purity, he now urges us to walk in love, light, and wisdom
- As an application, he explained the responsibilities, wives and husbands have toward each other
- He also reflected on the great love the Lord has for His church



# Walking In Love (5:1-7)

- Imitators of God (New Man, His children): What would God do?
- Love of Christ:
  - ❖ Unconditional
  - ❖ Sacrificial
  - ❖ Limitless
  - ❖ Willful



# Walking In Love (5:1-7)

- Sweet smelling aroma: an offering grateful to God and acceptable to Him
- Things which should not even be named among saints: Fornication, all uncleanness, covetousness, filthiness, foolish talking, coarse jesting (against love)
- It befits the saints to give thanks always (expressed by love)



# Walking In Love (5:1-7)

- Another reason for staying away from all these sins is the inheritance of the kingdom of God (only children)
- Covetousness is idolatry
- A third reason is the wrath of God
- The tool of Satan in tempting us is deception
- Are we sons of God or sons of disobedience?



# Walk In Light (5:8-14)

- As children of God (New Man), you are light (moon vs. sun)
- The fruit of the Spirit whom we received as the children of God is in all:
  - ❖ Goodness: seeking to do what is good (within)
  - ❖ Righteousness: seeking to do the right thing (outside)
  - ❖ Truth: seeking and exposing the truth



# Walk In Light (5:8-14)

- As light of the world:
  - ❖ We should find out what is acceptable to the Lord.
  - ❖ Have no fellowship with the works of darkness
  - ❖ Expose (rebuke) the darkness that their true character may be brought to light
- Works of darkness are unfruitful, done in secret, and shameful to even mention them (not only doing them)





# Walk In Light (5:8-14)

- Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed." (John 3:19,20)
- God is calling those who sleep (unbelievers) to awake (believe) and arise from the dead (sin) and He will give them light (New Man) (Isaiah 60:1,2 and 26:19)





# Walk In Wisdom (5:15-21)

- As children of God, we need to walk also wisely:
  - ❖ Walking circumspectly with the utmost accuracy and diligence
  - ❖ Redeeming the time by buying every possible moment out of the hands of sin and Satan
  - ❖ Understanding the will of God in every time, place, and circumstance
  - ❖ Being filled with the Spirit



# Walk In Wisdom (5:15-21)

- The comparison between filled by wine (foolish) and filled by Spirit (wise)
- Being filled with the Spirit
  - ❖ Speaking in spiritual songs
  - ❖ Giving thanks always
  - ❖ Submitting to one another in the fear of God

# Duties Of Wives (5:22-24)



- Submit to your husbands in everything, as to the Lord, because the husband is the head
- Christ is the head of the church and her Savior
- The church is subject to Christ
- Submission of love and not of slavery

# Duties Of Husbands (5:25-31)



- Love your wives, as Christ loved the church:
  - ❖ He gave Himself for her
    - ❑ To sanctify and cleanse her through the washing of water (baptism) by the word (confession of baptism)
    - ❑ To present her to Himself a glorious church
      - Having no spot or wrinkle (young)
      - Holy and without blemish

# Duties Of Husbands (25-31)



- Love their wives as their own bodies
  - ❖ For he who loves his wife loves himself
  - ❖ For no one hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it (provide for her)
    - ❑ Even as the Lord does His church
    - ❑ For we are members of His body
  - ❖ For in marriage man and woman become one, just as with Christ and His church



# Marriage (5:32-33)

- Marriage is a sacrament of love, oneness, and harmony (great mystery)
- Established by God Himself
- Portrayed by Christ and the Church
- Sanctified by the Holy Spirit
- Husbands need respect, wives need love



# Conclusion

- What are the characteristics of the love of God?
- Why should we abstain from sin?
- What does it entail to walk in light?
- What are the features of the works of darkness?
- How do we know that we are walking in wisdom?
- What will happen when we are filled with the Spirit?
- Husbands and wives are equal in...but not equal in...
- Husbands need...and wives need...