

Ephesians Series

Lesson #217

December 31, 2023

Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

© 2023, Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

Walk as Children of Light Ephesians 5:8–9



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

EPHESIANS

WEALTH

1:3–3:21

Prayer of thanksgiving to God for His provision of this new position in Christ. 3:14–21

WALK

4:1–6:9

Walk carefully in biblical wisdom.
5:15–6:9

WARFARE

6:10–20

Put on the whole armor of God that you may stand. 6:10–20

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

Eph. 4:17, “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,

Eph. 4:18, “*because* their understanding *is* darkened, having been alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;”

**ματαιότης *mataiotēs*
fem sing dat (f) futility;
emptiness; purposelessness**

Eph. 5:2, “And walk by means of love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.”

Eph. 2:1, “And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,

Eph. 2:2, “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,”

Eph. 2:10, “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

Rom. 6:4, “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

Rom. 8:4, “that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”

Rom. 13:13, “Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.”

1 Cor. 3:3, “for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and walking like mere men?”

2 Cor. 4:2, “But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.”

2 Cor. 5:7, “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

Eph. 4:17, “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,

Eph. 4:18, “*because* their understanding *is* darkened, having been alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;”

**ματαιότης *mataiotēs*
fem sing dat (f) futility;
emptiness; purposelessness**

Eph. 5:6, “Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.”

κενός *kenos*

masc plur dat

empty, foolish, worthless; vacuity

***ackamarackus*: describes swindles and scams intended to deceive with a big showy production!; “pretentious nonsense intended to deceive,” ~OED**

i.e., every type of thought system based on human arrogance and the devil’s deceptions!

Eph. 5:6, “Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.”

κενός *kenos*

masc plur dat

empty, foolish, worthless; vacuity; ackamarackus

Col. 2:8, “Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.”

Eph. 5:8, “For y’all were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

Eph. 5:9, “(for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),

Eph. 5:10, “by evaluating to determine what is acceptable/pleasing to the Lord.” [RD]

What the Bible Teaches About

Light, Life, Darkness



1. Light is used as a metaphor to describe the essence, the character of God, His essential being.

1 John 1:5, “This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.”

1 Tim. 6:16, “who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.”

**Psa. 104:2, “Covering Thyself with light as with a cloak,
Stretching out heaven like a tent curtain.”**

**Psa. 89:15, “How blessed are the people who know the
joyful sound! O LORD, they walk in the light of Thy
countenance.”**

**Psa. 4:6, “Many are saying, ‘Who will show us any good?’
Lift up the light of Thy countenance upon us, O LORD!”**

Hab. 3:4, “His radiance is like the sunlight; He has rays flashing from His hand, and there is the hiding of His power.”

Psa. 44:3, “For by their own sword they did not possess the land; And their own arm did not save them; But Thy right hand, and Thine arm, and the light of Thy presence, for Thou didst favor them.”

2. Light in reference to its brightness and white purity is used as an illustration of the righteousness of God.

Job 30:26, “When I expected good, then evil came; When I waited for light, then darkness came.”

Isa. 5:20, “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; Who substitute bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”

Isa. 58:8, “Then your light will break out like the dawn, and your recovery will speedily spring forth; And your righteousness will go before you; The glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.”

3. Light in its piercing quality, illuminating and revealing what is in the darkness, is a metaphor for the justice of God.

Isa. 59:9, “Therefore, justice is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us; We hope for light, but behold, darkness; For brightness, but we walk in gloom.”

3. Light in its piercing quality, illuminating and revealing what is in the darkness, is a metaphor for the justice of God.

Light is in contrast to darkness representing everything that is opposed to God.

4. The absence of light, darkness, indicates the presence of divine judgment, the condemnation of God for the violation of His righteous standard.

Amos 5:18, “Alas, you who are longing for the day of the LORD, for what purpose will the day of the LORD be to you? It will be darkness and not light;”

Amos 5:20, “Will not the day of the LORD be darkness instead of light, even gloom with no brightness in it?”

5. The presence of light often refers to the Veracity of God; His eternal truth.

Psa. 43:3, “O send out Thy light and Thy truth, let them lead me; Let them bring me to Thy holy hill, and to Thy dwelling places.”

6. Specifically, light then describes more specifically the facets or components of God's Integrity: the combination of His righteousness, justice, and truth.

Psa. 89:14, "Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Thy throne; Loving kindness and truth go before Thee."

Psa. 89:15, "How blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! O LORD, they walk in the light of Thy countenance."

7. The absolute Truth of God then is the attribute underlying His revelation. So light is used to represent the illumination of divine truth. The Word lights our thinking and way in life.

Psa. 18:28, “For You will light my lamp; The LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.”

Psa. 119:105, “Your WORD is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

8. In conclusion to the first 7 points: light represents the totality of the divine essence with special emphasis on His righteousness, justice, truth, and the illumination and guidance which God's revelation in the Bible provides for life.

9. The LIGHT of God is related to life itself.

Psa. 36:9, “For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.”

In your light (in the light of Your revelation in Your Word)

We see light (we are able to correctly understand all of the issues, challenges, purpose, and meaning of life).

10. Jesus is said to be both Life and the Light of mankind.

John 1:4, “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.”

11. Light is contrasted with darkness, light is the revelation of God, darkness is the absence or the rejection of God's revelation.

John 1:5, “And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”

John 3:19, “And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

John 3:20, “For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.”

12. Jesus is the LIGHT.

John 1:9, “That [i.e., the Word] was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.”

John 8:12, “Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.’ ”

John 9:5, “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

John 12:36, “ ‘While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.’ These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.”

John 12:46, “I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.”

13. Satan is the master counterfeiter: he counterfeits truth, counterfeits life, counterfeits Jesus, counterfeits revelation.

2 Cor. 11:14, “And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

2 Cor. 11:15, “Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.”

14. Summary to this point.

- God is light.**
- Jesus is the light of the world.**
- Jesus' light brings life into the world, light and life are connected and dispel the darkness.**
- But the darkness rejects the light.**
- But the one who comes to the light, become sons of light and are to not abide in darkness.**
- Satan is the master counterfeiter of light.**

15. Since God is light (point 1, 1 John 1:5), we are to live our lives in the light to have fellowship with one another.

This next section deals with our new identity in reference to God's Light.

16. Light is used as a metaphor for the kingdom of God and the plan of God in contrast to darkness, which is used as a metaphor for the kingdom of Satan, carnality, sin, and evil.

Acts 26:18, “to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, in order that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.’ ”