

Ephesians Series

Lesson #220

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Dean Bible Ministries

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How Do We Walk “in the Light”?

Ephesians 5:8–10



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. 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. 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]

Three things we need to understand this passage:

- 1. What the Bible Teaches about Light**
- 2. What the Bible Teaches about our Position in the Light,
and**
- 3. Our Walk in the Light**
- 4. What the Bible Teaches about HOW we Walk in the Light.**

What the Bible Teaches About

Light, Life, Darkness



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, becomes sons of light and are to not abide in darkness.**
- Satan is the master counterfeiter of light.**

17. Our new legal position, adopted into the royal family of God, is LIGHT.

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

1 Thess. 5:5, “You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.”

**Eternal
Realities**

**Temporal
Realities**

“POSITIONAL TRUTH”

ACTS 16:31



IN CHRIST

**Baptism by the
Holy Spirit**

**“now you are
light in the
Lord”**

Rom. 6:3, “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized [identified] into Christ Jesus were baptized [identified] into His death?”

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.”

**18. But in our experience, we walk or think, talk, live either
in the light or in darkness.**

Eternal Realities

Temporal Realities

“POSITIONAL TRUTH”



ACTS 16:31

IN CHRIST

Baptism by the Holy Spirit

“Now you are light in the Lord”

WALKING BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

“Walk as children of light”

“Filled by the Holy Spirit”

1 John 1:9

SIN NATURE

Walking in Darkness

Sin Nature Control

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 John 1:6, “If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

1 John 1:7, “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

Eph. 5:8, “For you were once darkness [our position as unbelievers], but now you are light in the Lord [our new identity in Christ].

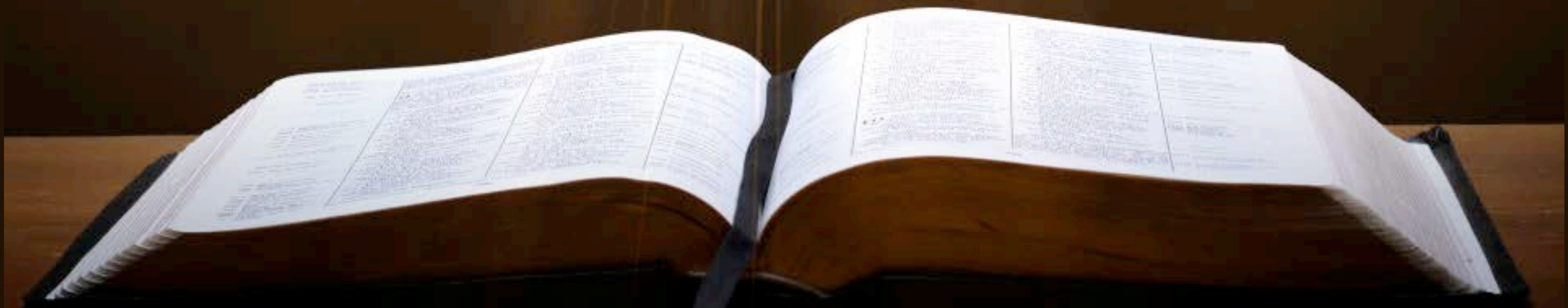
Walk as children of light!”

[But this implies we can walk like children of darkness]

1 John 1:6, “If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.”

What the Bible Teaches About

Our Walk in the Light



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

There is a textual variant here. Some manuscripts (mss.) have “light,” which fits with what is said in verse 8. It is possible that a copyist could have seen Light in the original and changed it to Spirit to be consistent with Gal. 5:22–23. Many translators choose this option—light is the original!

Gal. 5:22, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal. 5:23, “gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

Conclusion:

The Scriptures consistently show a contrast between two possible options:

living like unbelievers	or	living like believers;
walking in the darkness	or	walking in light;
not abiding in Christ	or	abiding in Christ;
walking according to the flesh	or	walking according to the Spirit.

John 15:5, “ ‘I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.’ ”

The fruit is not described in John 15, but the reality is that **walking in the Light, walking by the Spirit, abiding in Christ** are each said to be the *necessary* and *sole condition* of fruit production in the Christian life.

Therefore they must be equivalent.

What is fruit production?

Gal. 5:22, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal. 5:23, “gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

Eph. 5:9, “(for the fruit of the Spirit/light is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),” [NKJV]

Character transformation: to be Christlike—conformed to the image of Christ (Rom. 8:29)

1 John 1:6, “If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice [apply] the truth.

1 John 1:7, “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

Eph. 5:9, “(for the fruit of the Spirit/light is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),” [NKJV]

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ἀγαθωσύνη *agathōsunē*

fem sing dat

goodness; the idea of goodness, generosity which benefits others.

“Consist in the character of gracious generosity in kindness and benefits toward others”

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“Consist in the character of
gracious generosity in
kindness and benefits
toward others”**

**δικαιοσύνη *dikaioṣunē*
fem sing dat
expresses the quality of
righteousness or justice.
Here it speaks of our
righteous actions.**

**Php. 1:11, “having been
already filled with the fruits
of righteousness which *are*
by Jesus Christ, to the
glory and praise of God.”**

Eph. 5:9, “(for the fruit of the Spirit/light is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),” [NKJV]

**ἀγαθωσύνη *agathōsunē*
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**δικαιοσύνη *dikaíosunē*
fem sing dat
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righteousness or justice.
Here it speaks of our
righteous actions.**

**ἀλήθεια *alētheia* fem sing
dat
truth, truthfulness, what is
actual, in contrast to the
false**

What the Bible Teaches About

How to Walk in the Light



John 17:17, “Set them apart by Your truth. Your word is truth.” [RD]

John 17:19, “And for their sakes I set Myself apart, that they also may be set apart by the truth.”

Contrast: BUT

Rom. 2:8, “but to those who are self-absorbed and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath [divine discipline in their lives],” [RD]

What then should be the result?

The Christian way of life begins with the walk by the Spirit; *according to* the Spirit; *abiding in* Christ; *walking in* the Light of God's Word, with the result that our thinking, decisions, priorities, relationships become transformed as we reflect the character of Christ.

John 15:7, “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ...” [NKJV]

John 17:17, “Sanctify them by means of Truth, Your Word is Truth.”

Rom. 12:2, “... be transformed by the renewing of your thinking ...”

Understanding the “walk in the light!”

1. Jesus as the incarnate Logos (“word”) is the incarnation of Truth itself.

John 14:6, “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

Eph. 4:21, “if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as TRUTH is in Jesus: [RD]

Eph. 4:22, “that you have already put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man [our identity in Adam] which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

Eph. 4:23, “and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

Eph. 4:24, “and that you have already put on the new man [identity in Christ] which was created according to [THE] God, ‘in righteousness and purity of the truth.’ ” [RD, HCSB]

Eph. 4:24, “and that you have already put on the new man [identity in Christ] which was created according to [THE] God, ‘in [by means of] righteousness and purity of the truth.’ ” [RD, HCSB]

- 1. “By means of righteousness” describes the imputed righteousness which we receive at the instant we trust in Christ for salvation.**

Gal. 2:16, “because we know that a man is not declared righteous by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be declared righteous by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be declared righteous.” [RD]

Eph. 4:24, “and that you have already put on the new man [identity in Christ] which was created according to [THE] God, ‘in [by means of] righteousness and purity of the truth.’ ” [RD, HCSB]

2. “By means of truth” describes the Word of God, both incarnate (the *Logos*, Jesus) and inscripturated.

John 17:17, “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”

John 17:19, “And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.”

1 Pet. 1:23, “having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

1 Pet. 1:24, “because ‘*All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away,*

**1 Pet. 1:25, “ ‘*But the word of the LORD endures forever.*’
Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.”**

1 Pet. 1:22, “Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, (cf., Eph. 5:2 “walk in love.”)

1 Pet. 1:23, “[*because you have*] having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,”

**ἀναγεννάω *anagennaō* perf pass part masc
plur nom to beget again, cause to be born
again**

1 Pet. 1:23, “[because you have] having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,”

**φθαρτός *phthartos*
gen fem sing
perishable,
corruptible**

**ἄφθαρτος *aphthartos*
gen fem sing
imperishable, immortal,
incorruptible**

λόγος *logos* masc sing gen word, Jesus is the *logos*, the incarnate, “in the flesh” Word of God; the Bible is the written *logos*, Word of God.

1 Pet. 1:23, “[*because you have*] having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,” [living and abiding Word of God]

**ζάω *zaō* pres
act part masc
sing gen
to live**

**μένω *menō*
pres act part
masc sing gen
to remain,
abide, stay**

1 Pet. 1:23, “having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

1 Pet. 1:24, “because ‘*All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away,*

**1 Pet. 1:25, “ ‘*But the word of the LORD endures forever.*’
Now this is the word which by the good news was proclaimed to you.” [RD]**

ῥῆμα hrēma Noun neut sing nom spoken word

James 1:18, “Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.”

James 1:21, “Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with humility the implanted word, which is able to deliver your life.”

Three Stages of Salvation

PHASE ONE

Justification

PHASE Two

Spiritual Life

Text

PHASE THREE

Glorification

**Saved from
Penalty of Sin**

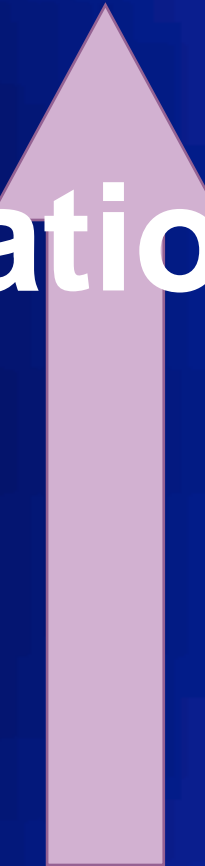
**Saved/Delivered from
Power of Sin**

**Saved/Delivered from
Presence of Sin**

“You were saved”

“You are being saved”

“You will be saved”



James 1:18, “Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.”

James 1:21, “Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with humility the implanted word, which is able to deliver your life.”

Eph. 1:13, “In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,”

Php. 2:16, “holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.”

Col. 1:5, “because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel,”

Col. 4:3; 1 Thess. 1:8; 2:13; 2 Thess. 3:1; 2 Tim. 2:9; 4:2; Titus 1:3; 2:5; Heb. 13:7; James 1:21

Psa. 119:105,

**“Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path.”**