Paul's Letter to the Church in Ephesus – Part 5 (c. 60)

Ephesians 5

From Darkness to Light—Do What Is Pleasing to God

- 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 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." [cf. <u>Isa 26:19; 60:1–2</u>]

Live Under the Influence of the Holy Spirit

- 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.
- 18 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.

Husbands and Wives—A Physical Illustration of the Union of Christ and the Church

- 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 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. [Gen 2:24]
- 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.

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