



Walking in Wisdom Not Foolishness

By Johnny Caruso on July 18, 2022

TODAY'S READING: Ephesians 5

Paul is exhorting the Ephesian church to live in a way that honors Christ. Just as Christ loved us, so we should love. As Christ-followers we will inherit the kingdom of God and we should display the fruit of the Spirit in our conduct and speech. We are no longer walking in darkness, but walking in the light of Christ. That light needs to explode in our lives and not be hidden by compromise with the world.

This is what it means to walk as wise people in the days that are evil. We are surrounded by temptations, and our sinful desires are easily attracted to the lure of the world. How easy it is to get drawn into worldly thinking which does not take into account the word of God as its foundation. Worldly thinking has no solid basis in objective truth. All it has is the shifting sand of subjective opinion and whatever "truth" is the flavor of the month. The wise Christ-follower who is walking in the Spirit will be able to discern it and avoid it, clinging instead to the firm foundation of God's word. This will mean being counter-cultural--not being relevant to our culture but going against the flow. But this is why the days are evil. As a church, we need to be willing to stand upon the revelation of God in Christ, which is the Word of God, no matter the cost.

Paul tells the Ephesians they need to "understand what the will of God is." He does not tell them to search after or seek God's will, but to understand God's will. He is assuming that God's will is something that is available to be studied, not something the believer needs to go figure out. Indeed, God has clearly told us what He wants us to do. That is why He gave us scripture, so we are not left to try to fathom God's will on our own. So, the Christ-follower who is concerned to know God's will is the Christ-follower who is seriously engaged in studying scripture.

As we evaluate how to make the best use of the time God has given us this week, may we consider how much time we spend thinking, talking and acting in line with culture rather than with scripture. Let us take every thought and deed captive and hold it up to the light of God's word, rejecting anything that is not worthy of that standard. May we strive more and more to honor the Lord by thinking His thoughts after Him and walking in His light as we pursue His will set forth for us in His word.

PRAYER: Lord, we are sometimes so confused by the way we should live because of the pressures of the world around us. Help us study and know Your Word so we can live according to Your will and not the whims of the world.

TOMORROW'S READING: Ephesians 6

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