

Ephesians Chapter Four

Chapter Four focuses on:

- The **WALK** of the **BELIEVER**.
- The **INDIVIDUAL** walk and the **CORPORATE** walk as believers in the Body of Christ.

This section is written for the believer. It is not applicable to those described in Ephesians 2:1-4; those dead in their trespasses and sin, who walk according to the lust of the mind, lust of the flesh and according to the Prince of the power of the air (Satan).

These verses reveal how the believer is to walk in a worthy manor. In coming to faith in Jesus Christ there is a transformation in thinking and behavior.

- 2 Corinthians 5:21 New Creation
- Romans 12: 1-4 Not conformed but transformed.
- Matthew 5,6 & 7 The Sermon on the Mount.
- I John 2:15-17 Do not love the world.

VS 1- 2 – Walk in a Worthy Manor

- Humility
 - Paul is focusing on UNITY.
 - Pride promotes disunity.
 - Humility promotes unity.
 - Philippians 2: 3-11 (Christ's example of humility).
 - James 4:6; 10.
- Meekness/gentleness
 - This is power under control.
 - The ability to be offended without retaliation.
 - It is bowing oneself to God's will. (pray for enemies, etc.).
 - A kind word turns away wrath.
- Patience/longsuffering
 - Enduring discomfort without fighting back.
 - Believing in the promises of God, by faith, and not looking only at the natural situation. (2 Cor. 4:16-18).
- Forbearance
 - Lovingly putting up with what is disagreeable in others.
 - Dealing with immature Christians who need time to grow up.
- IN LOVE

VS 3 – Unity

- Unity is in the Spirit (not the flesh).
- Unity is not uniformity or conformity but agreement on the main things:
 - Dogma
 - Doctrine
 - Discipline
- Unity is what brings peace or harmony.
- John 17: 11 – That they may be ONE and You and I are ONE.
- This takes some diligence.

VS 4-6

- One body – all believers from throughout all ages.
- One Spirit – the Holy Spirit
- One Hope – The return of Jesus Christ – 2nd coming.
- One Lord – Name above all Names – King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
- One Faith – Delivered once to the saints – Jude vs 3 – one Truth – John 14:6
- One Baptism – Baptism in the Holy Spirit – new life, born again.
 - 1 Corinthians 12:13
- One God and Father of us all.

VS 7-10 – How We Are Different

- Each one of us are uniquely gifted by God for ministry in the Body of Christ.
- See attached – Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- See attached – Appendix Functions of the Holy Spirit.

VS 11 – 16 – Gifts and Ministry

- Apostles
- Prophets – 1 Corinthians 14:3 – encouragement, edification, consolation.
- Evangelists
- Pastor/Shepherds – lead the flock and feed the flock.
- Teachers –
- Train and equip believers for the work of ministry.
- Maturity
- Knowledge of the Son of God
- Not children but grown up – not carried away with every wind of doctrine.

VS 17 – 32 – The Christian Walk

- Walk not as the gentiles – futility of their minds.
- Darkened minds, alienated from God, ignorant.
- Romans 1:28 – God gave them up to a debased/depraved mind.
- 2 Thessalonians 2: 10-12 – strong delusion.
- 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 – Satan has blinded the minds of the unbelieving.
- Put off the Old Man (flesh, sinful nature).
- Put on the New Man

- No more lying
- No more Anger
- No more giving place to the devil
- No more stealing.
- No more corrupt communication
 - Matthew 12:34 – out of the heart the mouth speaks.
- Grieve not the Holy Spirit
 - Resist not the Holy Spirit.
 - Do not blasphemy the Holy Spirit.
 - Receive the Holy Spirit.
- No more bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, slander, malice.

“Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.” Ephesians 4:32