

Walking Carefully

Ephesians 5:15-17

"Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise ..."

Walking Carefully (Ephesians 5:15)

"Walk" used 6 times in Ephesians, emphasizing our life in Christ:

- a. Good works of God. Ephesians 2:10.
- b. Worthily of our calling. Ephesians 4:1; cf. Colossians 1:10-12
- c. No longer as Gentiles (convinced of the futility of living in sin). Ephesians 4:17
- Practical applications of being new people in Christ. Ephesians 5:1-21 (cf. 5:2; 5:8; 5:15)
- **"Carefully"** (*circumspectly, KJV*): "exactly, accurately, diligently" (Thayer)

Walking Carefully (Ephesians 5:15)

- Be careful. James 3:13-18 (cf. 1 Corinthians 10:12; 1 Peter 5:8)
- Redeeming the time. (Making the most of the season of opportunity, cf. Galatians 6:10). cf. Colossians 4:5
- Life has *"evil days."* (Cannot neglect to watch!) Ephesians 6:13; James 4:14-15

Walking Carefully (Ephesians 5:15)

"Not as Unwise" (*Fools, KJV*); cf. Psalms 14:1; Proverbs 12:15; 18:2

- According to the course of the world. Ephesians 2:2
- As the Gentiles. Ephesians 4:17; cf. 2:12; Philippians 3:18-19; NOTE: Ephesians 4:18 and Romans 1:21-23
- After the flesh. Romans 8:4-5
- After the manner of men. 1 Corinthians 3:3; cf. 1:11-12; Galatians 5:19-21
- In craftiness. 2 Corinthians 4:2; 2 Peter 3:16-17

Walking Carefully (Ephesians 5:15)

"Not as Unwise" (*Fools, KJV*);

cf. Psalms 14:1; Proverbs 12:15; 18:2

○ By sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7; Leviticus 10:1-2

○ Disorderly. 2 Thessalonians 3:6; cf. 1 Timothy 5:8

Walking Carefully (Ephesians 5:15)

"But as wise" "Wise in a practical sense, i. e. one who in action is governed by piety and integrity" (Thayer)

- In newness of life. Romans 6:4; cf. Colossians 3:1ff
- In good works. Ephesians 2:10; Proverbs 14:12
- Worthily of God. Ephesians 4:1
- In love, be imitators of God. Ephesians 5:1-2; cf. 1 Corinthians 13
- As children of light. Ephesians 5:8
- Carefully
 - In wisdom toward them that are without. Colossians 4:5; Matthew 5:13ff; Philippians 2:12ff; NOTE: 2 Corinthians. 3:2-3

Walking Carefully (Ephesians 5:15)

"Redeeming the time." Ephesians 5:16

Redeem: exagorazo to buy up, i.e. ransom; figuratively, to rescue from loss (improve opportunity): (Strong)

Time: *kairós* "Season, opportune time. It is not merely as a succession of minutes, which is, but a period of opportunity ..." (The Complete Word Study Dictionary)

○ As the man whose pound made ten pounds.

Luke 19:16-17

○ As the men who multiplied their talents. Matthew 25

○ As the man who found treasure, pearl

Matthew 13:44-45

Walking Carefully (Ephesians 5:15)

○ **"Because the days are evil"** Ephesians 5:16

poneeros (Thayer)

1. "Full of labors, annoyances, hardships.

a. pressed and harassed by labors

b. bringing toils, annoyances, perils: Ephesians 5:16; 6:13

2. Bad, of a bad nature or condition.

a. in a physical sense: diseased or blind. Matthew 6:23;

Luke 11:34

b. in an ethical sense, evil, wicked, bad"

Walking Carefully (Ephesians 5:15)

Ephesians 5:17, "Wherefore be ye not foolish,

○ *afroon*: "without reason, senseless, foolish, stupid; without reflection or intelligence, acting rashly:

Luke 11:40" (Thayer)

but understand what the will of the Lord is."

○ *sunieeo*, "to understand, to comprehend, to perceive, to have insight into *sunieemi*, properly, to set or bring together, to put (as it were) the perception with the thing perceived." (Thayer)

Walking Carefully (Ephesians 5:15)

Ephesians 5:17, "Wherefore be ye not foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

○ Ignorance is no excuse. Acts 3:17

○ Jews and Gentiles. Acts 17:30;

cf. Ephesians 4:18

○ **"The will of the Lord."**

○ Is made known. Ephesians 1:9

○ Through Christ. John 6:68; 7:17

○ Revealed by the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:10-13