

EPHESIANS 4:1-3

LESSON 21

The Worthy Walk and Unity

1. Ephesians 4:1 – Therefore Walk Worthy

- a. *“therefore”* – 3 chapters of doctrine, knowledge, and only now are you ready to walk
 - i. To produce the worthy walk: 1) knowledge, understanding; 2) prayer... Col 1:9
 - ii. Doctrine informs our responsibility/walk/Christian life. We cannot be ignorant.
- b. *“worthy walk”* – to be worthy, the walk must be informed and that by the Spirit – Ro 8:1
 - i. See the doctrine in Rom 1-8, then prayer in Rom 8:26 and Rom 10:1, 12:1
- c. *“beseech you”* – we know Eph 2:10 ‘should’, now we are getting urged (exhorted)
 - i. ‘Beseech’ is not a demand, threat, or condition – 2 Cor 10:1
- d. *“vocation... called”* – You must know what this is before you can walk in it. Eph 1:18, 23
 - i. To get good conduct you must have knowledge of your holy calling – 1 Co 15:33
 - ii. *“The Christian life is a vocation, not a vacation.”* - TMclean
 - iii. The calling & vocation here is not earthly – it is a high calling – Phil 3:14, Col 3:2

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 – What Makes it Worthy

- a. All of these things are toward each other in the body of Christ – see Eph 4:2-6
- b. *“ye are called”* - It is God’s calling for you, not your plans or career.
- c. *“with lowliness”* – Esteeming others better than yourself -Pro 16:19, Ro 12:3, Phil 2:3
- d. *“meekness”* – its not weakness, but a mild response to provocation. 1 Cor 4:21, Gal 6:1
- e. *“longsuffering”* – which is descriptive of charity, taking wrong, suffering long – 1 Cor 13:4
- f. *“forbearing”* – to withhold wrath Rom 12:19 – accompanied by forgiveness - Col 3:13
 - i. See the putting on of the new man which starts with faith in Col 3:10-15
- g. *“one another in love”* – There are > 12 times Paul instructs to do things to one another

3. Ephesians 4:3 – Issues with Unity

- a. *“endeavouring to keep”* – to work at, to spend effort on keeping not obtaining.
- b. *“the unity of the Spirit”* – not the unity of the flesh, preferences, friendship, etc.
 - i. *“unity”* – Is what we have as members of the body of Christ = fellowship.
 - ii. *“the Spirit”* – speaks to what the Spirit has revealed = truth! God’s will!
- c. *“bond of peace”* – What keeps it is not letting the flesh separate us.
 - i. Christ obtained peace for us – Eph 2:14, Rom 5:1, the bond is Christ’s work.
 - ii. We must learn to live with what God has achieved for us.
 - iii. Don’t be scared to live peacefully – Col 3:15
 - iv. Peace is accompanied by righteousness – Rom 12:18, 14:19, 14:17
 - v. Peace does not mean we do not correct, rebuke, admonish, exhort, warn, separate, etc – Rom 16:17-19
 - vi. Peace is found in Christ – keeping it requires one mind – 1 Cor 1:10, 2 Cor 13:11, Gal 6:16, Phil 4:9, 2 Tim 2:22, 1 Thess 5:13, Eph 6:23