

# SERIES: 'WALK WORTHY'- -1/19/25 (#11)

## PASTOR LEE

-Pastor Lee: As we open up and submit to the Word of God, lives are changed!!!

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*EPH 5:14- 21- - (14) ..... Therefore it says, Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you. (15) Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise (16) making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Will of the Lord is. (18) And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, (19) addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, (20) giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, (21) submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

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- V-14 grabs our attention and reminds us of earlier passages: walk as children of the light; try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord; take no part in the fruit of the darkness; BUT AWAKE!, O SLEEPER....ARISE FROM THE DEAD....CHRIST WILL SHINE ON YOU!
- V-15: 'WALK WORTHY' IN THIS LIFE....without sleep-walking or falling into the 'fog of life'.
- Jumping to V-21....what does it mean to be 'reverent?....ans: its kind of a posture: eg....awe of His unimaginable presence along with a solemn fear/respect - -in context....with swelling eyes on Jesus.
- And Jesus is present, here in our Church!....(see Rev. 1:12-20)....imagine our response if we could see him here! Let's avoid 'robotic' worship (and 'robotic living') and genuinely respond to the awesome presence of our Lord.....making him central to us here.... now... and throughout our lives.
- Reminder: We lives in this dark, fallen world-from Adam and Eve-they sinned against God... the separation of man/God began...only to be reconciled by God sending us His Son/our Savior...with ultimate Grace, taking on our sins and deserved punishment to Himself. And, thereby, having made the decision to put our faith and trust in Him, we... somehow...even while made righteous...still manage to let the dark world infiltrate us!
- But we have an alternative....we don't need to be stuck in a world of lies, of cheating, of evil....we can "Walk Worthy" and, then, even in the face of death, "Christ will shine on you"! Many in this Church reflect this light...this joy! Christ...make Him #1!!
- Four more topics in this Passage: 1. Walking wisely vs. foolishly; 2. Making the best use of your time; 3. Understanding the Will of God; 4. Being 'Spirit-filled'.
- 1. 'Wise or foolish'....the distinctions are clear and are spoke about throughout Bible....See Psalm 14:1- - 'The fool says in his heart, "there is no God." They are corrupt, they do

- abominable deeds, there is no one who does good.' Eg.....to say "I don't believe in God" is absolute foolishness.
- Said another way, they do believe in 'a' God...the problem is that, they themselves, are their god! See Prov 1:7- - The fear of God is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. Care about what HE thinks, not others!
  - How do you train up your kids in the Bible ie...to be wise...huge responsibility. (Pastor Lee relates his family's 'wise and foolish game'). Proverb 10:1- - A wise son makes a glad father; but a foolish son is a sorrow to his mother.
  - Re: 'best use of time' (2).....these days are evil.....take the time or redeem the time to properly prepare your children.....never too late. This same principle applies to your overall life...never too late to accept Jesus...to turn your path toward Him. Look at your remaining days preciousy....make the best use of your time (prioritize!)- **NO TIME WITH GOD IS WASTED!**
  - Re: 'the Will of God (#3).....if you don't figure this out, you *will* be foolish! We need to do what God says (Scripture) and stop complicating things. See Romans 12:2 - -Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the Will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
  - The 'world's checklist includes: \*Self Reliance; \*Fear of Man; \*Wisdom of Man; \*YOLO; \*Unthankfulness; \*Sexual Freedom. BUT GOD'S CHECKLIST: \*FEAR OF GOD; \*WISDOM OF GOD; \*REDEEMING THE TIME; \*THANKFULNESS; \*GROWING IN JESUS; \*SEXUAL PURITY. \*\*\*\*\*Discern The Difference!
  - Re: sexual purity: See 1 Thes 4:3- - For this is the Will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality. We don't have to guess.....God conveys His Will in His Word!
  - Re: the Will of the Lord- - see V-18: "....do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery.....". (ie excessive living) Nine of the eleven verses in Proverbs that relate to alcohol speak ill of it. Example: Prof 20:1- -Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise. Be careful and understand God's Will.....if alcohol controls you....then the Spirit of God is not. See Gen 9:20-27 and the related part of Noah's story.
  - Also see Rev 17, referencing the nations of the world drunk with the woman who rides the beast. Pastor Lee: But be filled with the Spirit.....God gives us this gift at the point of salvation but His Presence is a day-to-day process where, rather than grieving the Spirit of God, He is welling up in us!
  - V-19-20: There is a switch which changes our lives....changes who we are!.....where am I on God's CheckList? (See above)

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*Isaiah 8:11-14 - (NVT) - -The Lord has given me a strong warning not to think like everyone else does. He said, (12) Don't call everything a conspiracy, like they do, and don't live in dread of what frightens them. (13) Make the Lord of Heaven's armies holy in your life. He is the one you should fear. He is the one who should make you tremble. (14) He will keep you safe. But to Israel and Judah He will be a stone that makes people stumble, a rock that makes them fall. And for the people of Jerusalem He will be a trap and a snare.*

**WAKE UP!- -WALK WORTHY!- -REFLECT CHRIST'S LIGHT!**