

Eph 5:15-21

- I. Walk Wisely according to God's will (15-17)
 - A. Command: Be careful to live wisely in your limited time (15-16)
 - 1. General: Watch that you live wisely, not unwisely (15)
 - a. General: Carefully watch how you walk (live) (15a)
 - b. Specifically: Not as unwise, but wise (15b-c)
 - 1) Neg: not as the unwise (15b)
 - 2) Pos: but as the wise (15c)
 - 2. Specifically: Make the most of your time in this corrupt age (16)
 - a. Redeeming/ making the most of the time/opportunity (16a)
 - b. Reason: because the days/times/this age are evil/corrupt (16b)
- cf. 6:13, Eccl. 2:23
 - B. Therefore: Don't be unwise, but know God's will (17)
 - 1. because of this do not be foolish (17a)
 - 2. but understand what the Lord's will is (17b)
- II. Be filled with the Spirit (18-21)
 - A. Neg: Don't be drunk, which is debauchery (18a-b)
 - 1. don't be drunk with wine (18a)
 - 2. In which is debauchery (18b)
ἄσῳτια – reckless abandon, wastefulness, debauchery, dissipation
 - B. Pos: But be filled with the Spirit (18c-21)
 - 1. Command/Cause: But be filled with/by the Spirit (18c)
Notice the contrast between being drunk with wine and being filled with the Spirit
The point is not that we should be drunk with the Spirit i.e. act foolishly or out of control
The point is that the Spirit should impact every part of our life, just like drunkenness does
A drunk person is evident by the way they walk, talk, etc.
A person filled with the Spirit should be evident by the way they walk, talk, etc.
 - 2. Effects/Means (19-21)
What follows could either be the way in which we are filled with the Spirit,
Or the results of our being filled with the Spirit
 - a. Speaking to each other (19a)
Notice that the community worship/singing of the congregation was a means to proclaim and teach the truth to one another
Pay close attention to the lyrics of the community songs, because they have a strong influence on the theology of the congregation
The better quality of the lyrics of congregational singing will be reflected in better quality of the congregation's theology and discipleship
And a negative result will come from low quality lyrics
 - 1) with Psalms
Most likely the words of the OT book of Psalms (put to music)
 - 2) and Hymns
Possibly pre-written lyrics (put to music)
 - 3) and Spiritual songs
Possibly spontaneous lyrics composed while singing

- b. Singing (19b)
- c. and Psalming (19c)
 - This word means to sing accompanied with musical instruments
 - 1) with your heart
 - Not “in your heart” i.e. “silently”
 - But “with your heart” i.e. “wholeheartedly”
 - cf. Fee GEP p. 718 fn. 190
 - 2) to the Lord
- d. Always giving thanks (20)
 - 1) to the God and Father
 - 2) for all things
 - 3) in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ
- e. Submitting to one another in the fear of Christ (21)
 - Each of the following three sections is a specific elaboration of this command for certain household relationships
 - 1) (Wives-Husbands) [5:22-33]
 - 2) (Children-Parents) [6:1-4]
 - 3) (Servants-Masters) [6:5-9]