

**Ephesians 5.2, 8, 14**

**JVI, Long Lake Church, 08.18.19, 1**

Texts, ESV: Ephesians 5.2, 8, 14

i. Last week I framed-in the passage Ephesians 5.1-8

a The frame around that Passage was the verb *to walk*: to regulate your life

b I didn't share the frame of the Scripture until the end of *the message*

c This week, I'd like to share the frame at the beginning. Sometimes master carpenters want to see how an apprentice will build a box, or the frame.

ii. **Ephesians 5.2, 8, 14**: There are 2-3 load bearing structures in this passage

a Let's back up from a couple options on how to interpret verse 14 for now

b *to walk* offers more support to this passage than other verbs, tying verse 2 to 8

c Light is another overarching concept throughout this immediate, verses 8, 14

iii. At this point in Ephesians 5, the Passage is supported by the verb *to walk*

a I'm reading out of the ESV, but I'm cross-referencing Kenneth Wuest's NT

b So let's hear **Ephesians 5.2** in the **ESV** again

\* Now let's hear **Wuest's** translation of **verse 2**: *and be ordering your behavior within the sphere of love, even as Christ also loved you and gave himself up in our behalf and in our stead as an offering and a sacrifice to God for an aroma of a sweet smell.*<sup>1</sup>

1 ESV "And walk in love" - Wuest "be ordering your behavior"

2 This is an ongoing activity that we don't see in other translations

c Let's hear **Ephesians 5.8, ESV**

\* **Wuest NT, verse 8**: *for you were at one time darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. As children of the light be habitually conducting yourselves.*<sup>2</sup>

1 ESV "Walk as" - Wuest "be habitually conducting yourselves"

2 To walk is not a one time event, or a process we went through years ago

iv. Paul is talking about our *walk, ordering our behavior, and forming habits* in the NOW

a Like Kenneth Wuest, I've chosen scholars from the Reformation onward today

b Matthew Henry says the walk is our whole conversation, principles we live by<sup>3</sup>

c John Wycliffe is called the *Morning Star of the Reformation*, probably best known for his early translation of the Bible into English. The Wycliffe Bible Commentary says a couple things about the walk.

1st: "This is descriptive of our whole manner of life," and . . .

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<sup>1</sup> Kenneth S. Wuest, *The New Testament: An Expanded Translation* (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1961), 455.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Rosewell, "Ephesians," in *Acts to Revelation*, vol. 6 of *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible* (Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell Co.), 709

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2nd: "God always places the fact of our position before us as the basis for our behavior."<sup>4</sup> It's about our growing position in Christ.

3 Wycliffe adds to our message - We do because of who we are becoming

v. That brings us to a 2nd overarching part of the framework of Ephesians 5

a Wycliffe says that we line up our walk with who we are becoming - *lights*

1 **Ephesians 5.8, 14:** We are becoming lights with an everlasting hope

2 Verse 8: "now you are light in the Lord" - both ESV & Kenneth Wuest

\* Listen to **Wuest's** very literal translation of **verse 14:** for everything that is being made plain is light. Wherefore He says, Be waking up, he who is sleeping arise from the dead, and there shall shine upon you the Christ.<sup>5</sup>

2 There are at least 2 options I can see when looking at verse 14

b The 1st option is that the light of Christ is shining upon sinners, self-explanatory

c The 2nd is that Christians need more light. Backing up to **verse 8**

1 there is no verb around *light* in verse 8, only before and after

2 So a better translation is: *we were once in darkness . . . but NOW light*

\* John Wesley says, NOW that the change has taken place, "*Walk as children of light* - Suitably to your present knowledge."<sup>6</sup>

3 We are walking "as children of light - Suitably to" what we know NOW

4 We're NOT expected to walk according to what we will know THEN

5 That's **verse 14:** that's the THEN, but we're becoming like that NOW

6 We look for the THEN, but NOW the light of Christ reveals how to walk

vi. We're framing in this passage, and it's supported by our walk, and the light of Christ

a However, any master carpenter knows that's not enough

b If you can put a roof over any frame, you can get a lot of work done over time

c We've already established that the roof is the people of God, plural sense

d In Ephesians 4-5, everything changes because we are under a new roof

e Covered by the church, we walk together, we share light with each other

*And walk in love, as Christ loved us . . . as children of light . . . and Christ will shine*

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<sup>4</sup> Charles F. Pfeiffer and Everett F. Harrison, ed., *Wycliffe Bible Commentary* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1962), 745).

<sup>5</sup> Wuest, 455-456.

<sup>6</sup> John Wesley, *Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament* (London: Wesleyan-Methodist Book-Room), Ephesians v.8.