## "Walk In Wisdom" Colossians 4:5-6

## Introduction:

- 1. Turn In Your Bibles With Me This Morning:
  - To Colossians 4 Where Last Sunday:
    - We Looked At:
      - Paul's Admonition In 4:2 Which Was To:
        - "Continue In Prayer, And Watch In The Same With Thanksgiving!"
    - Did You "Continue In Prayer" Last Week?
      - Did You Enjoy The Sweet Fellowship With The Lord:
        - That Comes Through Continued Prayer?
- 2. Well This Morning We Come To:
  - The Final Admonition:
    - Of The Apostle Paul To The Colossian Church:
      - Even Though There Are Still Another 12 Verses In This Letter!
    - And In 4:5 We Are Told To:
      - "Walk In Wisdom!" (2x)
- 3. Now To "Walk" Here:
  - In This Verse As Well As Other Times In The New Testament:
    - Simply Means To:
      - Live Your Life In A Certain Way!
  - And Paul Wants:
    - The Colossian Christians:
      - As Well As Us Today:
        - To Live Our Lives:
          - Guided & Governed By Wisdom!
            - By True Wisdom!
- 4. But What Is This Wisdom:
  - That Paul Is Talking About?
    - Well Paul Has Already Described:
      - The Kind Of Wisdom We Need To Live By:
        - In This Letter!
  - It Is A Wisdom:
    - That Is First Derived From:
      - The Savior!
        - From The Lord Jesus Christ!
          - Back In 2:3 Paul Tells Us That In Christ "Are Hid All The Treasures Of Wisdom And Knowledge!"
    - So To "Walk In Wisdom" First Means:
      - That You Need To Know Christ!
        - Only Then Can The Vast Treasures Of True Wisdom Be Opened Up To You!
          - Do You Know Christ Today?
            - Are You Trusting In Him As Your Savior From Sin?
        - If Not You May Be The Smartest Person In All The World:
          - But You Can Never Truly "Walk In Wisdom!"
            - But If You Are Trusting In Christ You Are Ready To Walk:

- In The Wisdom:
  - That Is Also Derived From:
    - The Spirit!
      - From The Holy Spirit Of God!
        - Back In 1:9 Paul Opened His Letter With A Prayer!
    - "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding!"
      - When You Become A Christian:
        - The Lord Does Not Leave You To Yourself To Figure Out Things On Your Own!
          - You Are Given The Gift Of The Holy Spirit!

- And He Becomes The Source: - Of The Wisdom That You Need: - In Order To Walk & Live Your Life In A Way That Pleases The - So - To "Walk In Wisdom" Also Means: - That You Need To "Walk In The Spirit!" - And Be Guided & Governed: - By Him! - But The Holy Spirit Most Often Guides Us Through His Word! - So - This Wisdom: - Is Further Derived From: - The Scriptures! - From The Bible! - Back In 3:16 - Paul Tells All Of Us To - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom!" - Because - The Word Of God: - Reveals To Us: - The Wisdom Of God: - In All Its Splendor! - So - To "Walk In Wisdom" Means: - That You Need To: - Learn From & Live According To: - God's Holy Word! - Are You Doing This? - Not Just Today: - But Every Day? This Is The "Wisdom" That Paul Is Talking About! - This Is The Wisdom That You & I Are To "Walk In!" - It Is - The "Wisdom That Is From Above!" (James 3:17) - And It Is Derived From: - The Savior! - The Spirit! - And The Scriptures! - And - When You Live Your Life: - In Faith - In Christ! - In Fellowship - With The Holy Spirit! - And - In Following - God's Word! - Then You Are Walking In True Wisdom! - But Then - In The Rest Of Our Verses: - Paul Explains How We Are To "Walk In Wisdom!" - By Giving Us Four Ways To "Walk In Wisdom" As Christians! \* First - You Need To "Walk In Wisdom": - This Is Why In 4:5 - Paul Adds: - "Walk In Wisdom Toward Them That Are Without!" - It Is True That You & I Need To: - "Walk In Wisdom" Toward Everyone! - But - Paul Has Already Addressed This In Our Relationships In The Church & In Our Families! - But Here - Paul Especially Points Out: - "Them That Are Without!"

As A Testimony!

5.

1.

- - - Which Simply Means Those Who Are Not Believers In Christ!
      - They Are Outside Of The Fold Of Christ!
- It Is Important For You & I To Live Our Lives:
  - "In Wisdom" As A Testimony:
    - To The Unbelievers Around You & To The Unbelievers Who Know You!
      - You Need To Remember That:

## - IE: Your Life Is A Letter From God To This World!- What Does It Say?

- So How Can You Do This?
  - How Can You "Walk In Wisdom Toward Them That Are Without?"
    - The Scriptures Give Us Several Ways!
- In 1 Thessalonians 4:12 We Are Told To:
  - Walk Candidly!
    - "That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without!"
      - In A Way That Is Honest & Honorable:
        - Before God & This World!
- In Ephesians 5:15 We Are Told To:
  - Walk Carefully!
    - "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise!"
      - In A Way That Is Careful & Cautious:
        - So That There Will Be No Cause For Scorn Or Ridicule:
          - Not Just Of Yourself, But Of The Lord!
- In Acts 24:16 Paul Shares With Us How He Sought To:
  - Walk Conscientiously!
    - "And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men!"
- This Is To Be Your Testimony:
  - Before A Lost & Dying World!
    - To "Walk With Wisdom Toward Them That Are Without!"
      - Because The Lord May Even Use Your Testimony To Bring Those Who Are:
        - "Without" The Fold To "Within" The Fold!
  - In 1 Peter 3:1 Peter Even Shares How An Unsaved Husband May Be Won By His Saved Wife:
    - "They also may without [a] word be won by the conversation of the wives!"
      - A Good & Wise Testimony Can Go A Long Way In Winning Someone To The Lord!
- So "Walk In Wisdom" As A Testimony!
  - Does This Describe Your Walk:
    - As A Christian This Morning?
      - Are You "Walking In Wisdom Toward Them That Are Without?"
- \* Second You Need To "Walk In Wisdom":
- 2. With Your Time!
  - Because Paul Continues In 4:5 And Says:
    - "Redeeming The Time!"
      - Now There Are Two Main New Testament Greek Words For "Time":
    - Chronos Which Describes The Sequence Of Time:
      - And Gives The Idea Of Order!
      - Chronology! Chronometer!
    - Kairos Which Describes The Significance Of Time:
      - And Gives The Idea Of Opportunity!
      - This Is The Word Used In Colossians 4:5!
      - Use The Word "Opportunity" As Well!
    - Everyone Has The Same Amount Of Time In A Day!
      - Chronos! 24 Hours!
    - Not Everyone Has The Same Opportunities In A Day!
      - Kairos!
    - So You Need To Redeem Your Time:
      - And Your Opportunities:
        - Each And Every Day, For The Lord! So:
  - Don't Spend Your Time:
    - In Wastefulness!
      - **IE:** Ever Wonder: "Where Did The Day Go?" & "What Did I Even Do With My Day?" What Did I Accomplish? Anything To Show For It? Even More What Did I Accomplish For The Lord?
    - Your Time Is Too Valuable!

- So Redeem It! Redeem Your Time From Wastefulness!
  - In Ephesians 5:16 Paul Adds -"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil!"
- Don't Spend Your Time:
  - In Worldliness!
    - Do You Spend Your Time In Worldly Pursuits, Without Ever Thinking What God's Purpose For Your Time Is?
  - Your Time Is Too Valuable!
    - So Redeem It! Redeem Your Time From

Worldliness!

- Don't Spend Your Time:
  - In Wickedness!
    - Albert Barnes "Be More Especially On Guard Against A Sinful & Unprofitable Waste Of Time!"
  - Your Time Is Too Valuable!
    - So Redeem It! Redeem Your Time From Wickedness!
- IE: You Wouldn't Throw Away Your Money!
  - But How Often Do You Throw Away Your Time Every Time You Use Your Time For Wastefulness / Worldliness / Wickedness!
    - Won't You Redeem Your Time & Opportunities For Your Lord?
      - Especially Your Opportunities To Display Christ In Your Life To Others?
- So "Walk In Wisdom" With Your Time!
  - Does This Describe Your Walk:
    - As A Christian This Morning?
      - Are You "Redeeming The Time?"
- \* But Then Third You Also Need To "Walk In Wisdom":
- 3. In Your Tongue!
  - In 4:6 Paul Writes:
    - "Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt!"
      - It Is A Wise Thing:
        - To Fill Your Words:
          - With Grace!
            - This Is To Be:
  - The Character Of Your Tongue:
    - And Your Speech!
      - It Is To Be Gracious!
        - This Means That You Need To Deliberately Speak Your:
    - Words In Grace!
      - That Is In How You Say Things!
        - In A Way That Is Not Surly, But Soft!
          - The Book Of Proverbs Has A Lot To Say About The Manner Of Your Speech!
      - Proverbs 15:1 "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger!"
      - Proverbs 16:24 "Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones!"
      - Proverbs 25:11 "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver!"
        - We Need To Speak Graciously!
          - But This Also Means That We Need To Deliberately Speak:
    - Words Of Grace!
      - That Is In What You Say!
        - Words About God & His Grace!
      - Psalm 71:24 "My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long!"
        - We Need To Speak Graciously!
    - After All As King Solomon Once Wrote:
      - In Ecclesiastes 10:12 "The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious!"
        - So "Walk In Wisdom" In Your Tongue!
          - May It Be Filled With Grace!
            - Because Grace Is Also Described As:
  - The Condiment Of Your Tongue!

- Paul Adds In 4:6 "Seasoned With Salt!" - Salt Is A Well-Known Condiment & Seasoning: - That Has Several Properties That Are Useful For Our Food! - Salt Can Be Used: - To Preserve Food! - Before Refrigeration - To Preserve Meat: - You Would Rub It In Salt Or Put It Into A Brine! - Because - Salt Preserves! - Salt Can Also Be Used: - To Flavor Food! - Something That Is Bland Can Be Made More Tasty & Savory: - By Sprinkling Just A Little Bit Of Salt Into It! - Because - Salt Flavors! - So Paul Uses This Common Seasoning: - As A Symbol - Of What Grace-Filled Words: - Can Do! - When Grace Is The Seasoning Of Your Words: - Like Salt: - They Can Be Used By God To Win Others To The Lord! - So - "Walk In Wisdom" - In Your Tongue! - Does This Describe Your Walk: - As A Christian This Morning? - Is Your "Speech Always With Grace, Seasoned With Salt?" \* Because Then - Fourth - You Need To Always "Walk In Wisdom": For The Truth! - As Paul Says - At The End Of 4:6: - "That Ye May Know How Ye Ought To Answer Every Man!" - Now - When It Comes To Seasoning Your Food: - With Salt - There Are Two Ways You Can Do It! - One Way Is: - To Add It - To Your Own Taste - When The Meal Is Served! - The Other Way Is: - To Add It - When You Are Preparing The Food! - This Is The Primary Way: - We Need To Season Our Words With Grace! - Not Just At The Moment Of Delivery! But: - Thoughtfully! - That Way - You Can - 4:6 - "Know How Ye Ought To Answer Every Man!" - It Means That You Have Put Some Thought: - Into What You Are Going To Say: - And How You Are Going To Say It: - Before You Actually Do! - **IE:** The Best Seasoning:
  - - Is Something That Can Marinate:
      - Into The Food!
        - So That It Can Penetrate And Flavor It Completely!
    - And So When It Comes To Speaking The Truth:
      - You Need To Carefully & Thoughtfully:
        - Deliberate About Your Words!
    - Now There Still May Be Times You Are Called Upon To Speak Without Adequate Preparation & Deliberation!
      - And The Lord Promises To "Give You In That Same Hour What Ye Shall Speak!" (Matthew 10:20)
        - But For The Most Part Your Words Of Truth Need To Be Served Up:
          - Thoughtfully!
            - But Then The Truth Also Needs To Be Delivered:

- 4:6 "That Ye May Know *How* Ye Ought To Answer Every Man!"
  - In Ephesians 4:15 Paul Explains *How* Christians Are To Speak The Truth:
    - "In Love!"
- And It Will Take Love & Tenderness:
  - To Say:
    - "The Right Word At The Right Time To The Right Person!" (Hendrickson)
- But This Is Not Just A Good Principle:
  - To Live By All This Is Closely Related To:
    - Your Witness:
      - To This World For The Lord Jesus Christ!
  - It Is How You Will Be Able To:
    - "Answer Every Man!"
      - No Matter What Questions Or Concerns They Might Have About Your Faith!
- Peter Puts It This Way In:
  - 1 Peter 3:15-16 "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: / Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ!"
- So "Walk In Wisdom" For The Truth!
  - Does This Describe Your Walk:
    - As A Christian This Morning?
      - Do You "Know *How* Ye Ought To Answer Every Man?"

## **Conclusion:**

- Are You Walking In Wisdom In These Ways Today?
  - As A Testimony For Christ?
  - With Your Time For Christ?
  - In Your Tongue For Christ?
  - And For The Truth For Christ?
- 2. If Not Remember:
  - What This Wisdom Is:
    - And Where It Comes From!
      - It Is A "Wisdom That Is From Above!"
    - True Wisdom Is Derived From:
      - Faith In Your Savior!
        - This Is Where It Starts!
          - But Then It Grows Through:
      - Fellowship With The Spirit!
        - Are You Walking In & Sowing To The Spirit Of God? Daily?
          - If So Your Wisdom Will Grow Through:
      - Following The Scripture!
  - So In Order For You To:
    - "Walk In Wisdom" You Need Help!
      - The Help Of The Lord!
        - So In The Words Of James "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him!" (James 1:5)
- 3. Go To God This Morning:
  - So That You Can & Will:
    - "Walk In Wisdom!"

Grace Baptist Church
Stephen Elmer, Pastor
4245 North 200 West
Greenfield, Indiana 46140
317-326-2362
www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace
www.growatgrace.org
pastor-elmer@hotmail.com