

Intro:

READ WLC Q&A 167

Main Point of Text: Paul commands Christians to walk carefully as wise men who understand that time is ticking away.

Sermon Point: *Walk circumspectly.*

Move 1: *Walk considerately for Christ.*

LC: “by serious and thankful consideration of the nature of it, and of the ends for which Christ instituted it, the privileges and benefits conferred and sealed thereby, and our solemn vow made therein”: Rom 6:3-5: ... *so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life ... in the likeness of his resurrection:*

Move 2: *Walk humbly before Christ.*

LC: “by being humbled for our sinful defilement, our falling short of, and walking contrary to, the grace of baptism, and our engagements”: ... *ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?* (1 Cor. 3:3) Written to Christians! *If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.* (1 John 1:6-7) *This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.* (Gal 5:16) Micah 6:8: God has shown you what is good and what He requires of you: to *walk humbly.*

Move 3: *Walk with conviction because of Christ.*

LC: “by growing up to assurance of pardon of sin, and of all other blessings sealed to us in that sacrament”: Rom 4:11-12: *And [Abraham] received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe ... And the father of circumcision to them ... who also walk in the steps of that faith ...*

LC: “by drawing strength from the death and resurrection of Christ, into whom we are baptized, for the mortifying of sin, and quickening of grace”: Confidence in Christ and His Covenant. (*For we walk by faith, not by sight:*) (2 Cor. 5:7)

Move 4: Walk carefully on Christ's narrow way.

LC: "by endeavouring to live by faith ... as those that have therein given up their names to Christ":

- 1 Thess. 2:12: ... walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.
- ... walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God ... As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: (Col 1:10; 2:6) John 8:12: if you are following Jesus (the Light), you won't be walking in darkness.
- 1 Jn. 2:6: He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

LC: "by endeavouring to ... have our conversation in holiness and righteousness":

- Rom. 13:13; 1 Thes. 4:12: ... walk honestly ...
- Ps. 26:11-12: But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity ... My foot standeth in an even place: in the congregations will I bless the LORD.
- Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: (Phi 3:16-18)
- Gal 6:16: And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. A walk with the Merciful God gets mercy. A walk of faith will be faithful.

Conclusion:

Many verses in Ephesians about walking: 2:10; 4:1, 17; 5:2, 8, **15**: Greek for "circumspectly": "cautiously, accurately, carefully, with watchfulness to guard against surprise". Like when down a dark alley: vss. 14, 16 (and 8). Unwise not to walk carefully: vs. 17 (with 15). Prov. 13:20: He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed. Phil. 2:12: work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. To do this you must ...

Walk circumspectly.