

Walk Worthy

Scripture

"I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called" (Eph 4:1 NKJV).

Devotion

Paul up to this point, in his letter to the Ephesians, has been laying down doctrinal truths as he is accustomed to do. Now he turns his attention more to the application of those doctrines already established. In the coming days we shall look at the grounds and proper means he gives for accomplishing this task, but today let us focus on the calling.

Walk worthy of the calling with which you were called. Other translations use the word vocation instead of calling, but the idea is the same. We are accountable to God to live our lives in a way that no harm would come to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Like David who failed with Bathsheba, killing Uriah, we may bring a good deal of damage to the name of Christ if we fail in our behavior.

"So David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die. However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also [who is] born to you shall surely die." (2Sa 12:13-14 NKJV)

Nothing can compare with the blessings of grace in salvation. To be a recipient of such divine favor, and return to wallow in mire is tantamount to adultery. "Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God." (Jas 4:4 NKJV)

My dear friends let us walk worthy of our calling. There is more at stake here than your comfort. The name of Christ is at stake.

Sometimes I think of sins I have committed after salvation, and I am overwhelmed by grief. Knowing that someday I will stand before Christ to give an account, I fall before Him in shame. Our only recourse in these times of clarity is to have faith in the mercies of God. Like David who committed a great sin and was spared his life, we too may trust in the grace of God.

As the Lord has said, "[The righteous] cry out, and the LORD hears, And delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD [is] near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit. Many [are] the afflictions of the righteous, But the LORD delivers him out of them all. He guards all his bones; Not one of them is broken. Evil shall slay the wicked, And those who hate the righteous shall be condemned. The LORD redeems the soul of His servants, And none of those who trust in Him shall be condemned." (Ps 34:17-22 NKJV)

"Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen." (1Jo 5:21 NKJV)