



# How is your "walk"?

- Doctors say one of the best excercises you can do to be/become healthy is walking
- Walking causes less injuries than jogging
  In the Ukraine, its even a social activity-Gulat
  I want to know about your Spiritual Walk—
  Crawl to walking; as we grow... therefore...

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, <sup>3</sup> being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.  <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:1-6, NASB

# A. Walk Worthy of the Calling

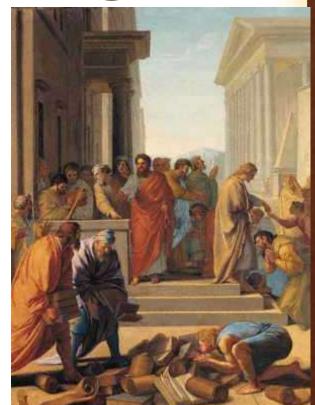
- Paul uses the word 'beseech' 2x in the whole New Testament
- Greek, 'parakleo'– means implore, admonish, exhort, urge
- So, he's urging us to walk 'worthy' of the calling; what calling?



Sanctification, Child-ship, heirs of salvation

# A. Walk Worthy of the Calling•Sanctified?

- When we trust Christ, we are made righteous "positionally"
- God declares us righteous, or now justified, by Jesus' life/death/res



This begins sanctification practically, set apart

• As we grow we learn to say "no" to temptation

For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, 5 not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup>*that no one should take advantage of and defraud* his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and *testified*. <sup>7</sup>*F* or God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.

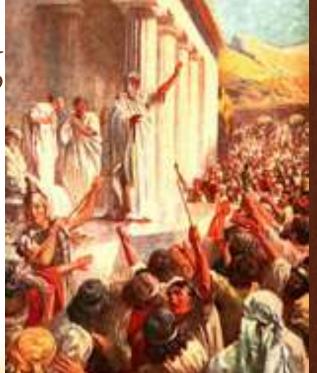
1 Thessalonians 4:3-7, NASB

### Five Things We Must Achieve

• To give a better understanding of a "worthy" walk, Paul lists five needs for us to gain Vs 2-3

 I. Humility, in the Greek mindset, it was a derogatory term, indicating low-mindedness and servitude

 By Jesus' example the definition: a love that lets you put the needs of others ahead of your own



Five Things We Must Achieve
2. Gentleness (Meekness) – if humility is an attitude, meekness is the action derived from

• Meekness is not Weakness- it is power under control



 Meekness is vital to maintaining unity; it smooths out our rough edges and creates a safe place for all

• Jesus even blessed it- Matt 5:5

# Five Things We Must Achieve

- •3. Longsuffering– not the same as patience
- Greek, 'makrothumia', forbearance, longanimity, fortitude
- Patience deals with circumstance, longsuffering deals with people



• God has no patience for my sin, but he *does* have patience with me...see?

# Five Things We Must Achieve 4. Loving Tolerance, where longsuffering was an attitude, this is the action part of longsuffering

- Know anyone like this?
- People that walk all over you, or drive you crazy, even at church?!



 Growing in Christ means letting go of these annoyances, letting God change YOU

# B. Five Things We Must Achieve

- 5. Endeavor to keep Unity in the Spirit in the bond of peace
- Greek endeavor is 'spoudazo', present tense
- It means we must constantly be working to maintain unity in the Spirit

• If we practice these 5 things; no bickering, no backstabbing, no one cares what color the carpet will be, or what kind of light fixtures we have!

#### C. Oneness

- •Vs 4-6, to illustrate that unity, Paul listed 7 facets of it
- •One Body
- •One Spirit
- One Hope of your callingOne Lord



- •One Faith
- •One Baptism
- •One God and Father of all

# Take Home...

 Sanctification is a constant series of godly choices we must make as Christians to walk worthy of our calling for the glory of God



 Let's think and practice the unity in Christ through humility, meekness, longsuffering, loving tolerance, and keeping the bond of peace