

GLEANINGS FROM EPHESIANS PART 15

From George Wood

Ephesians 4:1-3

Welcome to Chapter 4 of the Book of Ephesians. Up to this point in the epistle, Paul has focused on the blessings that God has bestowed on us as Christians. Now he turns his attention to the Church and how we as Christians are to walk.

Ray Stedman once wrote: "It is easy to be Christians in general, but not in specifics. It is very easy to have a vague sense of following Christ, but not know exactly in specific terms what this means." Well hang on! Paul gives us those specifics in the remaining verses of his great epistle.

In verse 4:1 Paul "implores" the Christians at Ephesus. "Implore" is a strong word meaning "to beg someone to earnestly do something". So what we are about to discuss is not just a mere suggestion on Paul's part, but a **STRONG** exhortation.

So what does he implore us to do? To "walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called".

What have we as Christians been called to do? To live for the "praise of His (Christ's) glory". (Eph 1:12) Our ultimate task is not to live for men, but for the glory of Christ. Our calling is to be witnesses of Christ...to declare to the world the message and aroma of Christ.

How do we do this? What should our walk look like? Paul tells us in verses 2-3:

1. with all humility
2. with all gentleness
3. with all patience, showing tolerance for one another in love
4. and with diligent effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

We are not effectively walking in a manner worthy of our calling as Christians unless the above qualities and behaviors are present in our lives. ALL OF THEM? Wow! We could spend several weeks just talking about "humility". But Paul implores us...strongly exhorts us...to live life with all of these markers of a Spirit filled being. Why? Because in all four of these qualities Christ is displayed to the world...Christ is glorified!! Pray that God will teach us by His power to walk in such a way. "Lord, let me walk this day in a manner worthy of my calling as your child...by Your power and grace. Amen."