
WALKING IN THE LIGHT

PREACHING WITHOUT WORDS

Sunday:

Walking Worthily – Ephesians and Colossians



Prepared by Jonathan Caldwell

4th Quarter 2022

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INTRODUCTION

“Each day I’ll shine!” What a goal! We have talked much this year about what to say and how to say it. But remember, Jesus said, “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father who is in heaven.” We are called to be light and to shine out in the darkness, just like our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This quarter we want to let our behavior do the talking.

One of the greatest problems facing evangelizing Christians today is the inconsistencies the world sees in our behavior. We say one thing and do another. We rail against homosexuality, abortion, and Hollywood but lie, cheat on our taxes, and mistreat our family. The world sees this and it leads to mocking. We cannot change what others do or do not do, but, individually, we must live as God has called us to live.

On Sundays, we will study Paul’s epistles to the Ephesians and Colossians. When you have given your life to Christ, how will you live? How will you think? How will you walk? It should make an impact on us so we will consider whether or not we are **Walking Worthy** of the gospel with which we were called. We will consider the life of the new man and how we must live going forward. This study will focus mainly on Ephesians – we have only two classes on Colossians but will consider the numerous parallels between the two letters as we work through the text.

On Wednesdays we will think about some studs and duds. Some men and women were set for success and shined a great light for God in their dark worlds. But others wasted their position and potential by living for themselves, blowing out their light, and joining the darkness around them. God wants His people to be **Priests in the World** – He wants us to show others who He is and lead them to Him.

What we say matters. What we teach matters. But the world sees what we do and that is often louder than everything we say and teach. The best sermon you may ever preach might be without words. Are you up for the challenge?

Jonathan Caldwell

Walking in the Light – Preaching without Words

Sundays: Walking Worthily – Ephesians and Colossians

Date	Topic	Passages
Sunday, October 9	1. Introduction	Ephesians and Colossians
Sunday, October 16	2. Every Spiritual Blessing	Ephesians 1:1-14
Sunday, October 23	3. Paul's First Prayer	Ephesians 1:15-23
Sunday, October 30	4. Then and Now	Ephesians 2
Sunday, November 6	5. The Mystery of the Gospel and Paul's Second Prayer	Ephesians 3
Sunday, November 13	6. Unity of the Body	Ephesians 4:1-16
Sunday, November 20	7. The New Man	Ephesians 4:17—5:21
Sunday, November 27	8. Paul's Household Code	Ephesians 5:22—6:9
Sunday, December 4	9. The Armor of God	Ephesians 6:10-24
Sunday, December 11	10. The Preeminence of Christ	Colossians 1-2
Sunday, December 18	11. The New Man's Life	Colossians 3-4
Sunday, December 25	12. Are We Walking Worthy?	Review

INTRODUCTION

- Please read Ephesians and Colossians (10 chapters total).
- Who wrote these letters and to whom did he write them?
- When were these letters most likely written and from where?
- How would you outline Ephesians?
- How would you outline Colossians?
- Why would we study these letters while focusing on shining our light?

EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING

EPHESIANS 1:1-14

- Considering these verses, what was God's role in our salvation?
- Considering these verses, what was Jesus' role in our salvation?
- Considering these verses, what was the Spirit's role in our salvation?
- How many times is the phrase "in Christ" (or something similar) used in this section?
- List the blessings named in this passage?
- What is the predestination mentioned in this passage?
- How does it compare to the Calvinistic teaching on predestination?

PAUL'S FIRST PRAYER

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

- Take a quick glance at Paul's other letters. Notice how often he is praying for these churches. What are some other prayers we read in Paul's epistles?
- What are the various ways Paul refers to and describes God in this passage?
- Paul prays for an increase in knowledge, wisdom, and understanding. How does this increase happen?
- Where is Christ now and what does that have to do with this letter?
- What are the implications of Christ being "head of the church"?
- What does the phrase "the fullness of him who fills all in all" mean?

THEN AND NOW

EPHESIANS 2

- What is the change from vv. 1-3 to vv. 4-5?
- What does the phrase “we were by nature children of wrath” mean?
- He didn’t just make us alive, where did he put us?
- Salvation is a gift. If it were the product of works, what would it be?
- According to this text, what are the differences between Jew and Gentile?
- What did Christ do about those differences?
- What does it mean that the apostles and prophets are the foundation and Christ the cornerstone?

THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL

EPHESIANS 3

- Why does Paul say he is a prisoner on behalf of the gentiles?
- Look up the term “mystery” in a Bible dictionary. How does it differ from what we may think when we hear the word today?
- When it comes to the truth, we can know what Paul knew. How?
- What is the mystery that Paul reveals?
- How is the wisdom of God revealed?
- What picture does the phrase “rooted and grounded in love” conjure up?
- What is God able to accomplish?

UNITY OF THE BODY

EPHESIANS 4:1-16

- What attitudes are necessary for unity?
- What doctrine is necessary for unity?
- What “gifts” were given to the church?
- For what purpose?
- How does a boat respond to every wave? How do children respond to every story they hear?
- While we must hold to certain doctrines to achieve unity, they must be taught with what characteristic?
- This whole thing is built on and organized around who?

THE NEW MAN

EPHESIANS 4:17—5:21

- How does Paul describe the gentiles?
- Paul contrasts the old and new man. Use this chart to note the differences:

The Old Man	The New Man

- What principle should guide our speech?
- How might 5:1 function as a summary of this section?
- What comes out of the person walking in darkness? What comes out of the one walking in the light?

PAUL'S HOUSEHOLD CODE

EPHESIANS 5:22 — 6:9

- What is the wife's job?
- What is the husband's job?
- What relationship provides the example for the husband and wife?
- What is the child's job?
- What is the father's job?
- What is the servant's job?
- What is the master's job?
- Where can we find other "household codes" in the New Testament?

THE ARMOR OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-24

- Against whom is our battle? Where have we read that Christ already has authority over these forces?
- What makes these things so important:
 - Truth
 - Righteousness
 - Evangelism
 - Faith
 - Salvation
 - The word of God
- We do not just put on the armor. What activity is essential when it comes to spiritual battle?
- Why does Paul request prayer?

THE PRE-EMINENCE OF CHRIST

COLOSSIANS 1-2

- Who initially taught the gospel to the Colossians?
- What does Paul pray for in vv. 9-14?
- How does Paul describe Jesus?
- What does Paul mean that he is “filling up what is lacking in Christ’s affliction”?
- Consider Colossians 2:3. Are the things we must know and understand only available to some? Are these things a secret? Must they be miraculously revealed to us?
- According to Colossians 2:8, what might have been going on in Colossae?
- Read various translations of Colossians 2:14 (i.e. NIV, ESV, KJV, NKJV, NASB). What was nailed to the cross?
- How were the rules concerning food, drink, and dates a shadow of things to come?
- What broad applications might we make with the phrase “they indeed have the appearance of wisdom...but are of no value”?

THE NEW MAN'S LIFE

COLOSSIANS 3-4

- How does Colossians 3:1 related to Romans 6?
- What does it mean that “your life is hidden with Christ in God”?
- How do the vices of vv. 5-9 compare with the other vice lists of the New Testament?
- The new man doesn't look like a Jew or a Roman or an American or some other nationality. What does the new man look like?
- Compare Colossians 3:16-17 to the parallel passage in Ephesians 5. In Ephesians, Paul says to be “filled with the Holy Spirit.” How are the Colossians to achieve that?
- What does this new man's marriage look like? His relationship with his children? Servants? Master?
- What is Paul's advice concerning our relationship with non-Christians?

ARE WE WALKING WORTHY?

REVIEW OF EPHESIANS AND COLOSSIANS

- “If you have died with Christ” – to what activity does this refer?
- “If you have died with Christ” – what does this phrase imply?
- “Put to death the old man.” That is strong language. What are your thoughts about this phrase?
- We are not worthy of the grace of God and the gift of eternal life. But our reception of it SHOULD impact our life. The Bible talks regularly about our life being a journey, a path, a walk. What does it mean to walk worthy?
- How should a relationship with the Lord change our attitudes and behaviors?
- How should a relationship with the Lord change our relationships?
- What is the guiding principle of this new man’s life?
- Consider 1 Peter 2:15 and 3:16. What connection can we make between these verses and our emphasis in Ephesians and Colossians?

SENDING THE LIGHT

COMMUNICATING ACCORDING TO SCRIPTURE

Wednesday:

“Studs and Duds” – Priests in the World



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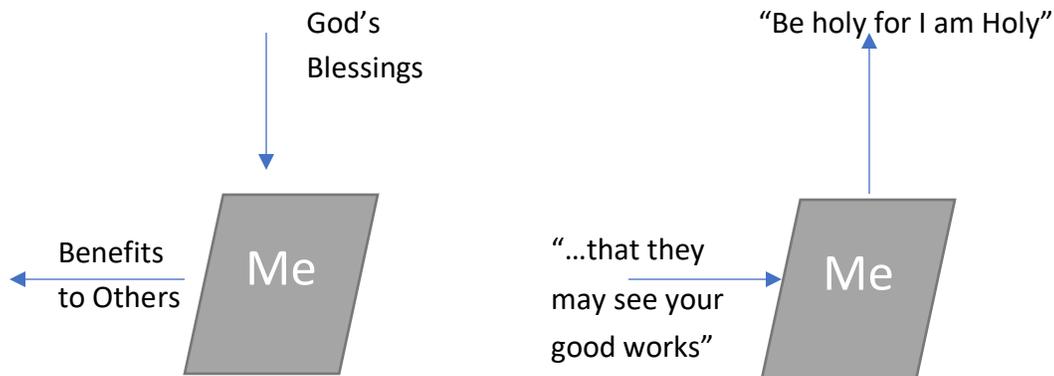
Wednesdays: Studs and Duds – Priests in the World

Date	Topic	Teacher
Wednesday, October 12	1. What do we mean, “Priests in the World”?	Jonathan
Wednesday, October 19	2. Abraham and Lot	Nathan
Wednesday, October 26	3. Joseph	Nathan
Wednesday, November 2	4. Moses	Jonathan
Wednesday, November 9	5. Rahab, Ruth, and Boaz	Nathan
Wednesday, November 16	6. Gideon and Samson	Richard
Wednesday, November 23	7. Saul, David, and Solomon	Richard
Wednesday, November 30	8. Daniel and Friends	Richard
Wednesday, December 7	9. Esther and Mordecai	Tim
Wednesday, December 14	10. Peter and Paul	Tim
Wednesday, December 21	11. The Women of the New Testament	Jonathan
Wednesday, December 28	12. Jesus	Tim

**The introduction to this study is on the Sunday side of the Book.*

WHAT DO WE MEAN? “PRIESTS IN THE WORLD”

- What was the job of a priest?
- Who could be priests under the Law of Moses?
- Read Exodus 19:1-6. If only certain people could be priests, what does God mean when He says “you shall be to me a kingdom of priests”? See also, 1 Peter 2:4-12.
- One analogy that is helpful in this discussion/concept is of us as mirrors. Mirrors reflect. As mirrors, we can be blessings to others of what God has given to us. And others can see something of God when they look at us. But what does this require of us?



- How can we be priests for God in our jobs, schools, neighborhoods, etc.
- Consult the table of contents to see who we will discuss this quarter. Who would you add to the list of those who succeeded and failed in their role as priests in the world?

ABRAHAM AND LOT

- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how was Abraham a priest?
- How did Abraham succeed at being a priest?
- How did Abraham fail at being a priest?
- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how was Lot a priest?
- How did Lot succeed at being a priest?
- How did Lot fail at being a priest?
- Are Abraham and Lot “Studs” or “Duds”?
- What can we learn from them about shining the light in the world?

JOSEPH

- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how was Joseph a priest?
- Joseph found himself in multiple worlds, but his light never seemed to dim. What were these worlds and how could he maintain his brightness?
- How did Joseph succeed at being a priest?
- How did Joseph fail at being a priest?
- Is Joseph a “Stud” or “Dud”?
- What can we learn from Joseph about shining the light in the world?

MOSES

- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how was Moses a priest?
- What made Moses’ role so difficult? Consider Hebrews 11:24-25.
- How did Moses succeed at being a priest?
- How did Moses fail at being a priest?
- Was Moses a “Stud” or “Dud”?
- What can we learn from Moses about shining the light in the world?

RAHAB, RUTH, AND BOAZ

- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how was Rahab a priest?
- How did Rahab succeed at being a priest?
- How did Rahab fail at being a priest?
- Is Rahab a “Stud” or “Dud”?
- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how Ruth and Boaz priests?
- How did they succeed at being a priest?
- How did they fail at being a priest?
- Are Ruth and Boaz “Studs” or “Duds”?
- What can we learn from them about shining the light in the world?

GIDEON AND SAMSON

- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how was Gideon a priest?
- How did Gideon succeed at being a priest?
- How did Gideon fail at being a priest?
- Is Gideon a “Stud” or “Dud”?
- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how was Samson a priest?
- How did Samson succeed at being a priest?
- How did Samson fail at being a priest?
- Is Samson “Studs” or “Duds”?
- What can we learn from them about shining the light in the world?

SAUL, DAVID, AND SOLOMON

- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how were Saul, David, and Solomon priests?
- How did Saul succeed at being a priest?
- How did Saul fail at being a priest?
- How did David succeed at being a priest?
- How did David fail at being a priest?
- How did Solomon succeed at being a priest?
- How did Solomon fail at being a priest?
- Are these kings “Studs” or “Duds”?
- What can we learn from them about shining the light in the world?

DANIEL AND FRIENDS

- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how were Daniel and his friends priests?
- How did Daniel succeed at being a priest?
- How did Daniel fail at being a priest?
- How did the friends succeed at being priests?
- How did the friends fail at being priests?
- Are these men “Studs” or “Duds”?
- What can we learn from them about shining the light in the world?

ESTHER AND MORDECAI

- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how were Esther and Mordecai priests?
- How did Mordecai succeed at being a priest?
- How did Mordecai fail at being a priest?
- How did Esther succeed at being a priest?
- How did the Esther fail at being a priest?
- Are Esther and Mordecai “Studs” or “Duds”?
- What can we learn from them about shining the light in the world?

PETER AND PAUL

- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how was Peter a priest?
- How did Peter succeed at being a priest?
- How did Peter fail at being a priest?
- Remembering what we said about “priests in the world” and their roles, how was Paul a priest?
- How did Paul succeed at being a priest?
- How did Paul fail at being a priest?
- Are these men “Studs” or “Duds”?
- What can we learn from them about shining the light in the world?

JESUS

- How was Jesus the type of priest we have been discussing?
- How did Jesus interact with his disciples as a priest?
- How did Jesus interact with the Jews as a priest?
- How did Jesus interact with the sick and outcast as a priest?
- What does Hebrews say about Jesus as a High Priest?
- What can we learn from Jesus about shining the light in the world?