### Ephesians

## Chapter 5

1Become imitators of God as His beloved children, 2and keep on walking in love – in the same way that the Anointed One loved you and gave himself up for you, as an offering and a sweet-smelling sacrifice to The God.  
  
3Don’t allow sexual immorality or any type of uncleanness or greediness to be even mentioned among you – as would be expected of holy people.  
  
4Nor [should you share in] shameful conduct, foolishness, or dirty jokes (which are all unbecoming), but instead, [share] in the giving of thanks.  
  
5[For it’s easy] to recognize those who are immoral, unclean, and greedy (which really amounts to being idol worshipers); and you know that such ones won’t receive an inheritance in the Kingdom of the Anointed One and of The God.  
  
6So don’t allow anyone to seduce you with empty words; for the wrath of God is coming upon the disobedient sons [of mankind] because of things like that!  
  
7Therefore, don’t go along with them... 8Because, although you were once dark, you’ve now become light in the Lord!  
  
So instead, keep on walking as children of the light!  
  
9For the fruitage of light is every sort of goodness, righteousness, and truth… 10Things that prove to be pleasing to the Lord.  
  
11So don’t share in the unproductive deeds of darkness. Rather, speak out against them!  
  
12It’s shameful to speak about things that are only done in private, 13because everything that the light speaks against is being exposed, since the light illuminates everything.  
  
14That’s why it’s said:  
  
 ‘Wake up, sleepy!  
 Rise from the house of the ‘dead’…  
 Then the Anointed One will shine upon you.’  
 [possibly a quote from a popular hymn]  
  
15So you must pay close attention to the ways that you’re walking… That it’s not like foolish ones, but like wise ones. 16Buy the time [to do this], because these are wicked days.  
  
17Yes, don’t be foolish, but start learning what the Lord’s will for us is.  
  
18And don’t be getting drunk on wine, which leads down an unsavory path. Instead, fill yourselves with the Breath [of God], 19and speak to each other in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs… Sing and create music in your hearts to Jehovah 20in the name of our Lord Jesus the Anointed One.  
  
Yes, always give thanks to our God and Father for everything!  
  
  
21You should also submit to each other in the same way that you show reverential fear for the Anointed One.  
  
22Wives should submit to their husbands like they would to the Lord, 23because a husband is the head and origin of his wife, just as the Anointed One is the head and origin of the congregation, that is, the savior of that ‘body.’  
  
24So, just as the congregation submits to the Anointed One, that’s how wives should [submit] to their husbands in everything.  
  
25Men:  
  
Love your wives as the Anointed One loved the congregation and gave himself up to make it holy.  
  
26He washed it in a bath of water (so to speak), 27in order to present a glorious gathering to himself that doesn’t have any spots, wrinkles, or any such things, but which is holy and without any blemishes.  
  
28Yes, that’s how the men should love their wives… As their own bodies.  
  
So, the man who loves his wife is really showing love for himself… 29And nobody ever hates his own flesh. Rather, he feeds it and takes pride in it, just as the Anointed One does the congregation.  
  
30And we’ve become parts of [Jesus’] ‘body’… Of his very flesh and his bones!  
  
31[So as the scripture says]:  
  
 ‘A man will leave his father and mother and stick with his woman, and the two will become one flesh.’ [Genesis 2:24]  
  
32Now, this is a great mystery, because I’m comparing [the relationship between husbands and wives] to the Anointed One and [his love for] the congregation.  
  
33But this is how each man should love his wife… As he does himself.  
  
And women should have a reverential fear of their husbands.