

## Chapter 11 - Walking - from Genesis to Revelation

### 11.1 Introduction

We have been examining how we as Christians should *walk worthy of our calling*; indeed, how we should live our lives so as to please God. This is obviously a very broad topic, but we will bring this short series to an end by looking at a miscellany of passages from both the OT and the NT which give us guidance in how to walk in ways that please God, and in the paths that He chooses. We pray that God would speak to us through His Word.

**Ps 25:4,5**      *Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; on You I wait all the day.*

### 11.2 Walking with God and Before God

From the early chapters of Genesis and throughout the OT, the heroes of faith all *walked with God* or *before God*.

**Gen 5:22b**      ... *Enoch walked with God three hundred years, ...*

**Gen 5:24**      *And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.*

**Gen 6:8,9b**      *But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. ... Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.*

**Gen 17:1**      *When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless."*

(*Blameless* in this context means to be genuinely and unreservedly committed to God's service.)

David, on his death-bed, gave these final instructions to Solomon:

**1 Kg 2:2-4**      *"I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man. And keep the charge of the Lord your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn; that the Lord may fulfil His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,' He said, 'you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'"*

Hezekiah, when sick and near death, prayed this prayer:

**2 Kg 20:3**     *“Remember now, O Lord, I pray, how **I walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what was good in Your sight.**”*

### **11.3 Walking Amidst the Psalms**

The Psalms are full of guidance on how to walk in ways that please God.

#### **(a) How we should Walk, and how we should not Walk**

**Ps 1:1,2**     *Blessed is the man who **walks not** in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.*

**Ps 81:11-13**     *But My people would not heed My voice, and Israel would have none of Me. So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, to **walk** in their own counsels. Oh, that My people would listen to Me, that Israel would **walk in My ways!***

**Ps 119:1-3**     *Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who **walk** in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart! They also do no iniquity; **they walk in His ways.***

#### **(b) God Will Teach Us the Way we should Walk**

**Ps 32:8**     *I will instruct you and **teach you in the way you should go**; I will guide you with My eye.*

**Ps 25:9,10**     *The humble He guides in justice, and the humble **He teaches His way.** All the **paths** of the Lord are mercy and truth, to such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.*

**Ps 25:12**     *Who is the man that fears the Lord? Him **shall He teach in the way He chooses.***

**Ps 27:11**     ***Teach me Your way, O Lord,** and lead me in a smooth path ...*

**Ps 86:11**     ***Teach me Your way, O Lord;** I will **walk** in Your truth.*

**Ps 143:8**     *Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning. For in You do I trust; **cause me to know the way in which I should walk,** for I lift my soul to You.*

**(c) How Should We Walk so as to Please God?**

**Ps 15:1,2** *Lord, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? He who **walks** uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart.*

**Ps 84:11** *For the Lord is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who **walk** uprightly.*

**Ps 26:1** *Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have **walked** in my integrity. I have also trusted I the Lord; I shall not slip.*

**Ps 26:3** *For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes, and I have **walked** in Your truth.*

**Ps 128:1** *Blessed is every one who fears the Lord, who **walks** in His ways.*

**(d) God Lights the Way we should Walk**

**Ps 89:15** *Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! **They walk, O Lord, in the light of Your countenance.***

**Ps 56:13b** *Have You not kept my feet from falling, that I may **walk before God** in the light of the living?*

**(e) We should Walk with no Fear of Death**

**Ps 23:4** *Yea, though I **walk** through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*

**11.4 Paul Instructed Christians how to Walk**

**Rom 6:4** *Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so **we also should walk in newness of life.***

**Rom 8:1** *There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who **do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.** (Also vs 4)*

**Rom 13:13** *Let us **walk properly**, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.*

**Rom 14:15** Yet if your brother is grieved because of your food, you are no longer **walking in love**. Do not destroy with your food the one for whom Christ died.

**Gal 5:16** *I say then: **Walk in the Spirit**, and you shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*

**Eph 4:1-3** *I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech **you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called**, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of love.*

**1 Thess 2:11,12** ... as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children, that you would **walk worthy of God** who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

**1 Thess 4:1** *Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us **how you ought to walk and to please God**;*

**1 Thess 4:11,12** ... that you also, aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, **that you may walk properly** toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.

## 11.5 John Concludes this Series

**1 Jn 2:6** *He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to **walk just as He walked**.*

**2 Jn 4** *I rejoice greatly that I have found some of your children **walking in truth**, as we received commandment from the Father.*

**2 Jn 6a** *This is love, that **we walk according to His commandments**.*

**3 Jn 3,4** *For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth that is in you, just as you **walk in the truth**. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children **walk in truth**.*

**Rev 3:4** *“You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall **walk with Me in white**, for they are **worthy**.”*

**Rev 21:23,24** *The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. And the nations of those who are saved shall **walk in its light**, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honour into it.*

## Devotional Exercise

We conclude this short devotional study with a summary of some of the things we can do to help us walk worthy of our calling, and be more pleasing to God.

- The fruit of the Spirit should be evident in our lives. Perform a critical self-examination by studying each of the virtues listed on pages 2.3 and 2.4. With each, ask yourself, “Is this virtue reflected in my life as a Christian?” Pray for God’s help in making up for any deficiencies you perceive in your walk.
- Establish a pattern of good works in your life. Pray that God would make you *fruitful in every good work*.
- Devote more effort to your study of the Bible, so that you will be *increasing in the knowledge of God*. Pray that you would come to know God more clearly, love Him more dearly, and follow Him more nearly.
- Strive to strengthen your faith by daily praying through the list of God’s attributes. Strive to give glory to God by praising Him for each and every one of His attributes.
- In any difficult situation, focus on God and what He is able to do, and trust Him.
- Jesus commanded us to love one another. Make an effort to put your love for others into *deeds*, as you strive to *walk in love*.
- Jesus is the light of the world. Strive to abide in Him, as He abides in you, so that His light will be seen in you, particularly through your *good works*.
- **Walk circumspectly** in this evil world, but be on the lookout to snap up any opportunity to be witness for Christ – to let your light shine!
- As you strive to walk worthy of your calling, pray that God would help you forgive others even as God in Christ forgave you.
- If you are experiencing difficulties in the circumstances in which you find yourself, you particularly need to *wait on the Lord*, so that you *shall walk and not faint*.
- Are you going through *tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?* Then focus on *the love of God has been poured out in your heart by the Holy Spirit*.