

Wisdom from a Full Spirit Redeems these Evil Days:

Let the Spirit fill your spirit

as you address one another out of praise, sing and melody from the heart to the Lord, give thanks always for all in Jesus' name, and submit to one another out of fear/reverence of Christ.

EPHESIANS 5:15-21

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¹⁵ Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of your time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; ²⁰ always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; ²¹ and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. ^{NASB}

5:15-16 Christ's disciples walk in a wisdom that sees the current age (days) as evil (or we haven't been discipled at all).

We view our days differently than those who foolishly deny that the King has come, that his judgment and rule will ultimately be put in place.

5:16-17 Wisdom is defined as taking into account what God has done/is doing/will do in Christ.

Ephesians 1:7–10 ^{NASB 7} In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace ⁸ which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight ⁹ He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him ¹⁰ with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him

Ephesians 1:16–23 ^{NASB 16} do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention *of you* in my prayers; ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. ¹⁸ *I pray that* the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. *These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might ²⁰ which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 3:7–13 ^{NASB 7} of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me according to the working of His power. ⁸ To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things; ¹⁰ so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly *places*. ¹¹ *This was in* accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him. ¹³ Therefore I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they are your glory.

5:18 Drunkenness (and other idolatries) are dissipations that distract us and distort our vision of reality in Christ Jesus.

5:18, 16 Rather, we need the Spirit who glorifies Christ (& his work), who fills our spirits to redeem our days.

Those whose spirits are being filled have thoughts and melodies shaped by the Spirit:

Colossians 3:15–17 (NASB95) ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ **Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.** ¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

5:19a *SPEAKING/ADDRESSING OUT OF PRAISE :*

We address one another with praises for God’s work.

5:19b *SINGING AND MELODYING FROM THE HEART:*

We address the Lord with worship and delight.

5:20a *GIVING THANKS FOR ALL THINGS:*

We address circumstances & neighbors with thanks to God for his grace in Christ.

5:21 *SUBMITTING/BEING SUBJECT TO ONE ANOTHER:*

We bow to one another because we know the fear of the LORD.

Matthew 23:6–13 (NASB95) ⁶ “They love the place of honor at banquets and the chief seats in the synagogues, ⁷ and respectful greetings in the market places, and being called Rabbi by men. ⁸ “But do not be called Rabbi; for One is your Teacher, and you are all brothers. ⁹ “Do not call *anyone* on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. ¹⁰ “Do not be called leaders; for One is your Leader, *that is*, Christ. ¹¹ “But the greatest among you shall be your servant. ¹² “Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted. ¹³ “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.