

* First - We See That We Ought To Live & Walk In:

1. **The Light Of The Lordship Of Christ!**

- He Is Lord – And As Lord, He Is The Supreme & Sovereign Judge!
 - And So - Paul Says In 5:11 - “Knowing therefore the terror – The Fear – of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences!”
- Paul Understood The Character:
 - Of The Lord!
 - And So Should We!
 - We Know About His Position:
 - As Judge!
 - We Know About His Power:
 - To Judge!
 - And We Know About His Purity:
 - In Judgement!
 - And So Paul Rightly Says:
 - “Knowing Therefore The Terror / Fear Of The Lord!”
 - We Must Never Forget These Truths About The Lord!
 - The Truth We Find In Hebrews 10:31:
 - That - “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God!”
 - The Truth We Find In Romans 14:11:
 - That - “It is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. / So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God!”
 - The Truth We Find In Isaiah 33:14:
 - “Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?”
 - The Lord We Will **All** Meet In Heaven As Judge:
 - Is A Great God, A Mighty God:
 - And A Terrible – Even Terrifying God (Nehemiah 9:32)!
 - So, How Should We Live In The Light Of His Lordship?
- His Lordship Is Persuasive!
 - 5:11 - “Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men!”
 - We Should Want **Others** To Know:
 - What **We** Know About The Lord:
 - And His True Character & His True Nature As The “Judge Of The Whole Earth!”
 - You See - The “Judgment Seat Of Christ” Is:
 - Just The Precursor Of The Final Judgment:
 - That Is To Come Upon All Men!
 - 1 Peter 4:17 - “For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?”
 - **IE:** Sometimes When You Know There Is Danger On The Road - You Try To Warn Others! Honk The Horn! Flash Your Lights!
 - And So - When We “Persuade Men” We Are:
 - **Warning** Them Of What Is To Come!
 - Hebrews 9:27 - “After This The Judgment!”
 - This Is How We Walk In The Light Of The Lordship Of Christ!
 - “Knowing Therefore The Terror Of The Lord, We Persuade Men!”
 - But Also:
 - His Lordship Is Pervasive!
 - 5:11b - “But We Are Made Manifest Unto God!”
 - Paul Now Looks At Our Own Relationship With The Lord!
 - Jesus Knows Us **Thoroughly**:
 - So He Can Judge Us **Perfectly**!
 - “We Are Manifest!”
 - This Means That:
 - There Is Nothing:

- He Doesn't Know:
 - About You! About Me!
- As David Once Wrote:
 - In Psalm 139:1-6 - "O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. / Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. / Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. / For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. / Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. / Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it!"
- We Are "Manifest Unto God!"
 - **IE:** Our Lives Are Like An Open Book Before The Lord - But Even More - Its As If The Pages Of Our Books Are Transparent In His Sight!
 - And We Ought To Live In The Light Of His Lordship!
 - And His Pervasive Knowledge About Us!
 - Even To The Point Where Paul Says:
- 5:11c - "And I Trust / Hope Also Are Made Manifest In Your Consciences!"
 - Paul Wanted His Church To Know Him:
 - As God Knew Him!
 - And So He Sought To Live His Life:
 - Transparently & Truthfully - For All To See!
 - He Walked In The Light:
 - Of The Lordship Of Christ!
 - Is This What Your Life Is Like Today?
 - How Often Do We Live As If Nobody Sees / Knows What We Think / Say / Do!
 - **IE:** Earlier This Week - I Stopped A Fight At A Gas Station - By Simply Honking My Horn - Immediately They Were Aware That Someone Else Was Watching Them - They Stopped & Walked Away!
 - We Need To Walk In The Light Of The Lordship Of Christ Every Day!
 - The Fear Of The Lord Is Our Horn - Reminding Us That He Sees All & Knows All & Will Judge All!

* Second - We See That We Ought To Live & Walk In:

2. The Light Of The Look Of Christ!

- Which We See In 5:12-13:
 - "For we commend not ourselves again unto you, but give you occasion to glory on our behalf, that ye may have somewhat to answer them which glory in appearance, and not in heart. / For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause!"
 - One Of The Problems Paul Faced In The Corinthian Church:
 - Was The False Leaders & Teachers Who Kept Asking To See Paul's Credentials & Commendations!
 - **IE:** Some Of Them Could Probably Show Their Diplomas & Degrees In Order To Impress The Members Of That Relatively New Church!
 - But Paul Had Already Showed Them:
 - His Credentials - By Preaching To Them The Gospel Of Christ!
 - It Changed Their Lives & Started A Church! And So He Says - 5:12 - "For We Commend Not Ourselves Again Unto You!"
 - So - Paul Was Not Out To Impress Them Outwardly - But Instead - To Please The Lord Inwardly!
 - He Sought To Walk In The Light Of How The **Lord** Looks!
 - And How Does The Lord Look?
 - 1 Samuel 16:7 - "For man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart!"
 - And This Is:
- A Great Contrast:
 - To How The World Looks!
 - The World Are Those Who:
 - 5:12 - "Glory In Appearance!"
 - They Are All About What Can Be Seen!

- **IE:** They Are OK If The Fruit Is Made Out Of Wax - As Long As It Looks Good & Shiny & Ripe!

- But Even Here:

- Paul Accommodated Them - When He Wrote:

- 5:12 - "But [I] Give You Occasion To Glory On Our Behalf, That Ye May Have Somewhat To Answer Them Which Glory In Appearance!"

- In Other Words - The Fruit Of His Life & Ministry Could Speak For Itself!

- Paul Was Willing For His Works:

- To Be Put On Display:

- Because He Knew That The Fruit Of His Life Was Not Wax, But Real!

- His Service For The Lord Was:

- Faithful!

- And Fervent!

- And Fruitful!

- And They Could Point To Paul's Service For The Lord And Say:

- "Look At What God Can Do!"

- But Ultimately:

- They Were Not Paul's Judge!

- The Lord Was!

- And So - Even Though Others Could Glorify God For His Service - His Main Goal Was Not To Impress Them! Instead It Was:

- A Great Care:

- For How The Lord Looks!

- Remember 1 Samuel 16:7 - "For man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart!"

- And So - In 5:13 - Paul Writes:

- "For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause!"

- Perhaps Some Of The False Teachers Were Trying To Impugn Paul's Character, By Calling Him A Bit "Mad!"

- Paul - You Are "Beside Yourself!" You Are Too Extreme! You Are Too Fervent! You Are A Crazy Christian!

- **IE:** Do You Know Anyone Like This?

- Actually - Paul Was In Good Company!

- Mark 3:21 - Even Some Of The Friends Of Jesus Said Of Him - "He Is Beside Himself!" (Same Word)

- But What They Thought Of Paul:

- And His Service For The Lord:

- And Even His State Of Mind:

- Didn't Matter All That Much To Paul!

- Because The Lord - His Judge - Knew His Heart!

- Paul Sought To Do Everything:

- For The Glory Of God:

- And For The Good Of His People!

- 5:13 - "For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause!"

- And God Alone Could Know:

- And Judge His Heart!

- So - He Walked In The Light Of:

- How The Lord Looks!

- "The Lord Looketh On The Heart!"

- Is This How You Seek To Live?

- Although There Will Be Fruit:

- In Your Life As A Christian:

- Your Fruit Is Not To Impress Others - Your Fruit Is To Please The Lord & To Bless Others!

- For His Glory & Their Good!

- And If Living In The Light Of The Lord:

- Seems Crazy To Some:

- Then Let Them Call Us Crazy!
- Because "The Lord Looketh On The Heart!"

* Third - We Ought To Live & Walk In:

3. *The Light Of The Love Of Christ!*

- 5:14 - "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead!"
 - Paul Is Still Thinking About Jesus As His Judge!
 - But He Is A Loving Judge:
 - Who "Ever Loves & Cares For His Own!" Those Who Are United With Him Through Faith In Him!
 - And It Is The Love Of Christ:
- That Constrains Us!
 - To "Constrain" Here Means:
 - To Squeeze & To Put Pressure On Something!
 - **IE:** Used The Illustration Before Of A Catsup Bottle! The Catsup Will Only Come Out When You Squeeze The Bottle!
 - The Reason Why Some People:
 - Might Have Thought Paul Was:
 - "Out Of His Mind" Was Because:
 - The Love Of Christ Made Him That Way! It Constrained Him To Be "Abnormal" According To The Estimation Of The World!
 - But Really - This Should Be The Most "Normal" Thing In The World For Christians!
 - "The Love Of Christ Constraineth Us!"
 - Albert Barnes - The Love Of Christ Was - "The Principle Which Actuated Him – Or Moved Him To Action – The Reason For His Extraordinary Zeal!"
 - Is This What The Love Of Christ:
 - Does To You?
 - It Should! And It Will - When You Remember That:
 - The Love Of Christ – Is Unsearchable!
 - Ephesians 3:19 Tells Us That The Love Of Christ - "Passeth Knowledge!"
 - The Love Of Christ – Is Inseparable!
 - Romans 8:35 Asks Us - "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?" / "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. / For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, / Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord!"
 - We Ought To Live In The Light Of His Love!
 - It Is Also The Love Of Christ:
- That Convinces Us!
 - 5:14b - "Because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead!"
 - What Is The Greatest Display Of Love?
 - Jesus - John 15:13 - "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends!"
 - And Yet - What Did Jesus Do?
 - Romans 5:8 - "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us!"
 - And So - Jesus Is The "One" Who Died:
 - According To 5:14!
 - Now - The Last Phrase Of 5:14 Could Also Be Translated:
 - "Then All Died!"
 - The Meaning Here Is Not:
 - "Jesus Died For All Because All Were Already Dead!"
 - But - Instead It Means:
 - "When Jesus Died For All Then All Died With Him!"
 - Paul Is Describing:
 - What Jesus Christ Actually Accomplished:

- When He Died On The Cross!
 - At That Historic Place!
 - In That Historic Time!
- Paul Is Telling Us Here:
 - That The Love Of Christ - Convinced Him:
 - Of The Power & Efficacy Of Christ's Death On The Cross For Him!
 - And So - In This Verse - The "All" Paul Is Talking About:
 - Are All True Christians!
 - All Those Who - In 5:15 - "Live" Through Him!
- That When Jesus Died For You:
 - You Died With Jesus!
 - Your Old Man - Died With Jesus!
 - Your Own Flesh - Died With Jesus!
 - The Power & The Punishment Of Your Sin - Died With Jesus!
 - Romans 6:6-7 - "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. / For he that is dead is freed from sin!"
- And Since "Jesus Paid It All" When He Died On The Cross:
 - We Should Say - "All To Him I Owe!"
- Are You Living In The Light:
 - Of The Love Of Christ This Morning?
 - 1 O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,
rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me,
is the current of Thy love;
leading onward, leading homeward
to my glorious rest above.
 - 2 O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
spread His praise from shore to shore!
How He loveth, ever loveth,
changeth never, nevermore!
How He watcheth o'er His loved ones,
died to call them all His own;
how for them He intercedeth,
watcheth o'er them from the throne.
 - 3 O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
love of ev'ry love the best;
'tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
'tis heav'n of heav'ns to me;
and it lifts me up to glory,
for it lifts me up to Thee!
 - But It Is Also The Love Of Christ:
- That Changes Us!
 - 5:15 - "And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again!"
 - When You Believe In & Receive Jesus Christ As Your Savior:
 - Not Only Did You Die With Him:
 - But Now You Live Through Him:
 - So That You Can Live For Him!
 - Galatians 2:20 - "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me!"
 - So Now - You Are No Longert:
 - Dead **In** Your Trespasses & Your Sins - As You Once Were!
 - You Are Dead **To** Them!

- And When You Live In The Light Of Christ's Love For You:
 - You Will - 5:15 - "No Longer - Henceforth - Live Unto / For Yourself!"
 - But - How Many Of Us Still Do?
 - Live For Ourselves?
 - Live For Our Own Pleasures!
 - Live For Our Own Purposes!
 - Live For Our Own Profit!
 - Perhaps Its Because You Really Don't Fully Comprehend The Deep, Deep Love Of Jesus **For You!**
 - But When You Do & As You Do:
 - You Will **Live:**
 - "Unto Him Which Died For You, And Rose Again!"
 - For His Pleasure!
 - For His Purpose!
 - And In His Power!
 - Because He "Rose Again" And Is "Alive Forevermore!"

Conclusion:

1. Are You Living & Walking:
 - In The Light Of The Jesus Christ?
 - The Light Of His Lordship Over You!
 - The Light Of His Looking Within You!
 - The Light Of His Love For You?
 - This Is - Nothing Less - Than What It Means:
 - To Be A Christian!
 - You Are Walking In His Light!
 - "He Only Is A Christian Who Lives For Christ!" (Charles Hodge)
2. So - In The Words Of Isaiah The Prophet:
 - "Come Ye, And Let Us Walk In The Light Of The Lord!"

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