

Ambassadors for Christ!

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This study: Ephesians

Ephesians 1:3 *Blessed be the God and Father*
Ephesians 1:7 *In whom we have redemption*
Ephesians 3:17 *your hearts rooted in love*
Ephesians 3:19 *know the love of Christ*
Ephesians 3:20 *God is able to do more*
Ephesians 5:1 *Be followers of God*
Ephesians 5:6 *Let no man deceive*
Ephesians 5:11 *no fellowship with darkness*
Ephesians 5:14 *Awake thou that sleep*
Ephesians 5:17 *Don't act thoughtlessly*

AV **Ephesians 1:3** “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:*”

AV **Ephesians 1:7** “*In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.*”

An ambassador is an *envoy*, a *messenger*, or a *representative*! Are we being a representative of Jesus by our attitudes and conduct?

Are we sending a right *message* by the clothes we wear, the way we talk, and the words we choose?—because those things represent something—the *world* of sin or the *Word* of God!

Every response we make or every prayer we offer represents something or someone!

In WEY **Revelation 5:8** When the Lamb received the Book from the Father, the “*Elders fell down before the Lamb, having each of them a harp and bringing golden bowls full of incense, which represent the prayers of God’s people.*”

We are to always *represent* Jesus in our walk and ways. AV **Ephesians 5:1-2** “*Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour.*”

Being an *ambassador* for Jesus means *following* His words, *accepting* His advice, and *treating* people in a kind and considerate way.

It is always acting toward them as we wish they acted toward us **Matthew 7:12**.

We should take inventory of our actions and attitudes and be honest in our assessment—whether we have been an *ambassador* for the Lord or represented the world.

Scripture helps with our assessment—as it NKJV **James 3:17** “*Is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.*”

The Holy Spirit helps us *act* and *talk* as a representative for Jesus—the Spirit dwells AV **Ephesians 3:17** “*In your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love*”—can always treat others from divine love.

NKJV **1 John 4:8** “*He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.*”

Grounded in love means *acting from love* toward everyone; it is depending on divine power to treat people in a scriptural way—that is faith in Jesus who gives us the ability to represent Him.

NKJV **Ephesians 3:19** “*To know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*”

Being an *ambassador* for God means *listening* to Christ—who told us AV **Matthew 22:37** “*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.*”

Acting from divine love in our heart toward all people; forgiving *everyone* of everything ever done to us; and *praying* for those who may have

offended us is just evidence of divine love in our heart.

Keeping our thoughts pure may be difficult today, but God calls us to a high standard of morality. He supplies the *ability*; *We* just make the *choice*.

AV **Ephesians 5:3** “*Fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints.*”

An everyday sacrifice of our *self-will* to God’s *divine-will* enables His Spirit to help us—NIV **Ephesians 3:20** “*To him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.*”

In representing the Lord, we should walk away from conversations, discussions, or activities we know do *not* have God’s approval. Jesus told us it is as much a sin to *think* of immoral thoughts as *committing* immoral acts **Matthew 5:28**.

AV **Ephesians 5:6** “*Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.*”

7 *Be not ye therefore partakers with them. 8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light.*”

We may have *thought* and *talked* like the world, but now we *know better*; we have been *enlightened*; and we are *committed* to act and think as a representative for Christ.

If we are a disciple of Christ, then our life must give *evidence* that we follow Him.

AV **1 John 1:6** “*If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.*”

We are to be *salt* and *light* in the world—NKJV **Ephesians 5:11** “*And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.*”

12 *For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.*

13 *But all things that are exposed are made manifest [visible] by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.*"

Following Jesus on fellowship means separating ourselves from those who *walk in spiritual darkness*—leaving the company of anyone who uses offensive language; indulges in alcohol; or talks about things an ambassador for Christ should not be listening to.

The devil will tempt us to *tolerate* or *listen* to conversations and jokes that a follower of Jesus should *not* tolerate or have any desire to be part of—and we should never pass on such conversations to others.

NKJV **Ephesians 5:12** "*For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret.*"

The *light* we have from God's Word makes the *evil* of this world known for what it is.

Jesus said NKJV **John 8:12** "*I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.*"

If we walk in the light of the Word of God, we would be His *ambassador* and *representing* Jesus.

There are many things said and done that would never *be* said or done if Jesus were with us or part of the conversation.

Jesus gave His life to free us from our sins—now we are *delivered* from any desire to be part of such talk or activities.

A spiritual revival and renewed commitment to the Christian walk of faith in Christ is always needed.

AV **Ephesians 5:14** "*Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light*"—**Isaiah 60:1**.

It is always good to take inventory of our ways and words and to make corrections where needed.

To *wake up* spiritually is to be a *help* to others spiritually—not be a hindrance by our ways and words.

NLT **Ephesians 5:15** "*So be careful how you live, not as fools but as those who are wise. 16 Make the most of every opportunity for doing good in these evil days.*"

As those in the world act *worse* and *worse* toward one another, we are to act, think, talk, and treat others *better* and *better*.

The apostle goes on 17 "*Don't act thoughtlessly, but try to understand what the Lord wants you to do [what the will of the Lord is AV].*"

The will of the Father is to *distance* ourselves from and *separate* ourselves from activities, interests, or conversations that are not in harmony with the Word.

We are warned *not* to be involved in unscriptural *ways* as it *will* affect our *life*—and eventually our eternal life. As an *ambassador* for Jesus, we are to be a spiritual light of God's Truth in our talk and walk.

Satan is out to destroy the soul of anyone who is not alert to the spiritual dangers surrounding us today. It is our responsibility to know God's *will* by reading His *Word*.

AV **Romans 12:2** "*Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*"

The Word tells us **Proverbs 20:1** that alcohol is a mocker—as an *ambassador* for Christ we should avoid having anything to do with it.

AV **Ephesians 5:18** "*Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;*

19 *Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.*"

God is specific about the choices we should make, so there is no excuse for doing

anything that would send a wrong message or not represent Jesus.

Every issue of life must be dealt with in light of the Scriptures. Whatever we *say* and *do*; however we *talk* or *decide*—it must be in agreement with the Word.

Our life is to glorify God by having a Christ-like attitude toward everyone.

If we have made a spiritual exodus *out* of Satan's bondage to sinful ways, attitudes, habits, and desires, we should *thank* God for His mercy—just as the Israelites were *thankful* on that Passover night.

Let us ask God to *search* every dark corner of our heart and *reveal* any leaven of sin within; any root of bitterness; any hidden resentment; any self-confidence or worldly attitude on which He has placed His hand of conviction.

The way of deliverance and freedom from the devil's power, is through *faith* in the atoning work of Christ. The way to healing and victory is through a trusting faith in the Lamb of God.

AV **John 14:6** "*I am the way, the truth, and the life*"—so let us always have a *repentant* attitude and an on-going *commitment* to be a godly example as an *ambassador for Christ!*



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