

Ephesians Series

Lesson #108

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Dean Bible Ministries

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EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

**The Calling of the Believer:
The Christian Life as a
Specialized Vocation or Profession
Ephesians 4:1**

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

12 Paragraphs

WALK IN UNITY

Eph. 4:1–6

Eph. 4:7–16

PUT ON THE NEW MAN

Eph. 4:17–19

Eph. 4:20–24

DO NOT GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

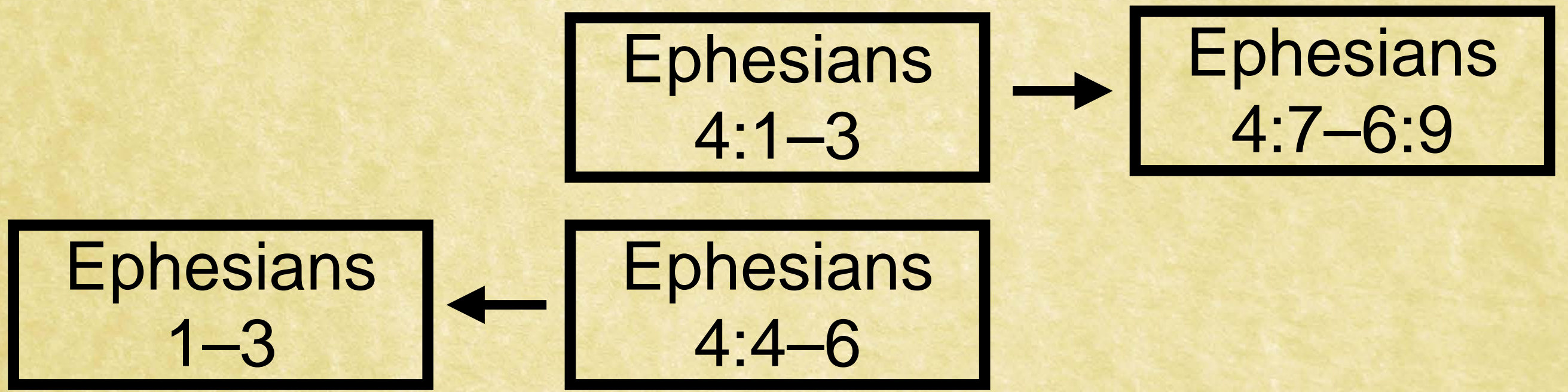
Eph. 4:25–32

WALK IN LOVE (1–8)

Eph. 5:1–2

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

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Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

Eph. 3:1, “For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles—”

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

**παρακαλέω *parakaleō*
1 sing pres act indic
to urge, exhort,
comfort**

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

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Rom. 12:1, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.”

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

**παρακαλέω *parakaleō*
1 sing pres act indic
to urge, exhort,
comfort**

**περιπατέω *peripateō*
aor act infin to walk,
walk around, figurative
for the Christian way of
life**

**ἀξίως *axiōs* adverb: in
a worthy manner;
worthily, in a manner
worthy of, suitably**

Phil. 1:27, “Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel, God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.”

Col. 1:10, “that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;”

1 Thess. 2:11, “as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children,

1 Thess. 2:12, “that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.”

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

**παρακαλέω *parakaleō*
1 sing pres act indic
to urge, exhort,
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**κλήσις *klēsis* with the
article
fem sing gen
“the calling”**

1 Cor. 7:20, “Let each one remain in the same calling in which he was called.”

“Likewise, a Christian’s vocational situation is a matter of little consequence (if status can be changed, well and good; if not, it is not a matter for worry). What matters is that every Christian should realize he is Christ’s slave and needs to render obedience to Him.”

[~David Lowery, “1 Corinthians,” *BKC*]

Eph. 1:18, “the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,”

Eph. 4:4, “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;”

2 Thess. 1:11, “Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power,”

2 Tim. 1:9, “who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,”

**Heb. 3:1, “Therefore, holy brethren,
partakers of the heavenly calling, consider
the Apostle and High Priest of our
confession, Christ Jesus,”**

1. In each of these passages, “the calling” is specified by an article.

2. This genitive noun supplies the standard or measure to which the adverb ἀξίως ‘worthily’ points. “Walk worthy of the standard of the calling.”

3. The noun κλήσις ‘calling’ refers to the position of status, honor, and responsibility that God has entrusted to His saints. This calling is the same for all saints, despite the diversity of the spiritual gifts they are given, therefore in biblical diction this noun is never used in the plural [~M. Barth, Ephesians].

4. Thus it emphasizes the basis for the command to walk, i.e., move forward from the understanding of who we are in Christ, what we have been given in Christ, which both summarize our wealth in Christ, which is now shown to be the standard we must aspire to in our daily lifestyle, conduct, way of life, thinking, worldview.