

# LIVING WISE IN 2025 -- PART 2

Sunday, January 19, 2025 -- NEW YEAR msg -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

EPHESIANS 5:15-21

English Standard Version (ESV)

**15** *Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as **wise**, **16** making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. **17** Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. **18** And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, **19** addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, **20** giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **21** submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

## OBSERVATIONS & APPLICATIONS --

**vs 15 -- NOTICE the CAUTION regarding how you will live in 2025.**

There is the admonition to be full of care.

*Look carefully then how you walk,*

There is the contrast between unwise and wise living.

*not as unwise but as wise*

**vs 16 -- NOTICE the GOOD REASON to be careful in 2025.**

*making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.*

*exagorazo = 'redeeming the time'*

As a Christian, your time in this fallen and evil world has been redeemed and repurposed.

You have a little bit of time and a lot of opportunity.

Your time and opportunity are limited and valuable!

Unlike eternity to come, this present moment is limited.

Ephesians 5:1 says *Be imitators of God...*

Ephesians 5:8 says *for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.*

Ephesians 5:15-16 being careful and redeeming the time is how you can be like God.

**PSALM 90:12**

*So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.*

**vs 17 -- NOTICE the BAD OPTION regarding how you can live in 2025.**

*Therefore do not be foolish,*

Realize that the world runs in utter foolishness.

**vs 17 -- NOTICE the GOOD OPTION regarding how you can live in 2025.**

*but understand what the will of the Lord is.*

***But how do we understand what the will of the Lord is??***

**15** Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as **wise**, **16** making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. **17** Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. **18** And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, **19** addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, **20** giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **21** submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

## **But how do we understand what the will of the Lord is??**

### **DEUTERONOMY 29:29**

*The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.*

### **DEUTERONOMY 30:11-18**

*11 "For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. 12 It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' 13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?'" 14 But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.*

*15 "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. 16 If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. 17 But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, 18 I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish.*

**How do we understand the will of the Lord? --> KNOW & BELIEVE HIS WORD!**

#### **Psalm 119:9-11**

- 9 How can a young man keep his way pure?  
By guarding it according to your Word.
- 10 With my whole heart I seek you;  
let me not wander from your commandments!
- 11 I have stored up your Word in my heart,  
that I might not sin against you.

#### **JOHN 1:14**

*And **the Word** became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

**vs 18 -- NOTICE the FOOLISHNESS of the world versus the WISDOM of God.**

*And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,*

**Getting drunk** is just one example of MANY ways to waste and destroy your life.

**Being filled with the Spirit** is the ONLY way to obey God with your life.

In 2025 you have the choice of building your life on the passing garbage of worldliness or on the eternal riches of God's commands and His kingdom.

**15** Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as **wise**, **16** making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. **17** Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. **18** And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, **19** addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, **20** giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **21** submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

**vs 19 -- NOTICE the WISDOM of TRUE WORSHIP!**

*addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,*

Your highest priority in 2025 should be the true worship of God every day of your life.

True worship begins with **Corporate worship** with God's family on Sunday.

(Read your Old and New Testaments to see if that isn't clearly true!)

- Be early, present and ready for worship when the church gathers.
- Bring a ready and expectant heart. (Psalm 51:10)
- Realize that true Christian worship involves loving God's people.

True worship continues everyday in personal worship and public witness.  
(see Romans chapter 12)

**Personal worship:**

- your reading scripture
- your prayer
- your discipleship
- your generosity

**Public witness:**

- your family life
- your work life
- your leisure life
- your service to others

**vs 20 -- NOTICE the WISDOM of GRATITUDE TO GOD through JESUS CHRIST.**

*giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ*

Gratitude is a statement of faith to God. Colossians 2:6-7

Gratitude pleases God (because faith pleases God -- Hebrews 11:6).

Gratitude is blessed by God. Hebrews 13:15-16

Gratitude is a blessing to others.

**vs 21 -- NOTICE the WISDOM of BEING UNDER SUBMISSION to one another.**

*submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

Our fallen flesh resists submission to God, what is right and others. (See Psalm 2)

This applies to mutual submission and hierarchical submission.

Wisdom realizes that God and His structures of authority are a source of blessing.

**HOW ABOUT YOU? How will you live in 2025 -- UNWISE or WISE?**