

Study Questions  
Ephesians 8 Revisited  
Sunday August 16<sup>th</sup> 2009

1). Eph 4:14 *that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-- 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.*

a). Explain what it means for the whole body to be joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, with every part doing its share.

b). How is this connected with speaking the truth in love?

c). How is this connected to the ministry of the apostles, prophets, evangelists and pastor-teachers?

2). Jas 1:18 *Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. 19 ¶ So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted*

*word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*

- a). What does v18 teach us?
- b). What are we admonished to do in v19 because of this?
- c). What would this look like in practice?
- d). What additional information is given in v20?
- e). What 3 things are set out in v21-22 with regards to our receiving the proclaimed word?
- f). What does it mean for us to lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness?
- g). What does it mean for us to receive with meekness the implanted word?
- h). Is it possible for this word to save our souls without the first 2 steps in place?
- i). What would it mean for us to be doers of the word?
- j). How is this process connected with every part doing its share through that which each joint supplies?
- k). What are the potential problems for the body as a whole if anyone in the body refuses to do this?
- l). What do you make of this scripture in this context? -1Co 11:18 *For first of all, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among*

*you, and in part I believe it. 19 For there must also be factions among you, that those who are approved may be recognized among you.*

3). Eph 4:17 ¶ *This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, 18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; 19 who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.*

a). Who would the rest of the Gentiles refer to here?

b). What does the scripture tell us about the way they walk?

c). How is it possible for a Christian to walk like this and what clue do we find in this scripture? - Php 2:20 *For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. 21 For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.*

4). Php 3:17 ¶ *Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. 18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:*

a). What contrast is given in these 2 verses?

b). Who do we have as a pattern and how would we see this in our own context?

c). How would the Christians in v18 be the enemies of the cross of Christ?

5). Ephesians 4:18 says - *18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart*

a). For those who are not eternally redeemed that described here would be easy to understand, but if Christians can walk in this same way how would we understand? –

i/ Having their understanding darkened?

ii/ Being alienated from the life of God.

iii/ The ignorance that is in them.

iv/ The blindness of their heart.

6). Eph 4:20 *But you have not so learned Christ, 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: 22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness*

*and holiness. 25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another. 26 "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, 27 nor give place to the devil.*

- a). What does v20 say to us?
- b). What condition is placed on v20 in v21?
- c). Do we have any foundational scripture for this?
- d). What are we to do in v22 and what does it tell us about our old man?
- e). What are we to do in v23-24 instead and is there any significance in the order given to these 2 things?
- f). What should then happen as a result of putting on the new man?
- g). How is v25 connected to speaking the truth in love and putting on the belt of truth?
- h). How do v26-27 fit with what has just gone before?
- i). What would it mean to be angry and not sin?
- j). What is the scriptural means of overcoming anger so as not to sin?
- k). What would it mean to give place to the devil?