

The background of the entire image is a photograph of ancient stone ruins, likely from the Roman or Greek era. The ruins consist of large, rectangular stone blocks arranged in a path or wall. In the upper right, a large, curved stone wall is visible. The ground is covered with smaller stones and some green vegetation. A glowing orange cross is positioned on the right side of the image, partially overlapping the text.

Understanding Who I Am

# Ephesians

Becoming Who We Are

**Walk In Love**



# Ephesians: Walk In Love



## Ephesians 5:1-6

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. <sup>2</sup> And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

<sup>3</sup> But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. <sup>4</sup> Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.

# Ephesians: Walk In Love



## Ephesians 5:1-6

<sup>5</sup> For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. <sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.”



# Ephesians: Walk In Love



*Therefore...*

- Your Position – chosen, adopted, redeemed, forgiven, sealed, gifted, empowered
- Walk in a manner worthy – 4:1
- No longer walk... 4:17
- Put off old self ....
- Put on ..... 4:24 ‘created after likeness of God’
- my language – choose the path of....
- Remember the audience

# Ephesians: Walk In Love



## 1. Heart Issue

a) clear – Eph. 2:8-10 “<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

- not obedient to earn, deserve, attain what God did for us in love and grace



# Ephesians: Walk In Love



## b) Call to us

- imitators of God
- walk in love
- love of Jesus
  - selfless – Matt. 10:8, Luke 6:35
  - holy – to sanctify us – Eph. 5:25-27
  - sacrificial – costly
- call to be: self sacrificing, fragrant offering, sacrifice

# Ephesians: Walk In Love



## 2. Put Away Old...

- current culture and culture they were in

### a) Passions

- sexual immorality – broad term

- porneia – 1 Cor. 7:2, Matt. 15:19, John 8:41

- fulfillment of sexual passions before marriage



# Ephesians: Walk In Love



- impurity (uncleanness)
  - word used half dozen times
  - Rom. 1:24, 6:19, 2 Cor. 12:21, Gal. 5:19, Eph. 4:19 Col. 3:5
  - exchange of natural for unnatural
  - desire for created over the creator
- covetousness
  - strong cravings for what I don't possess
  - inability to be content with necessities of life



# Ephesians: Walk In Love



## b) Perspectives

- 4:23 “<sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,”
- what's in your mind & heart revealed in speech and choices
- filthiness
- foolish talk
- crude joking
- no place in reflecting the new creation you are

# Ephesians: Walk In Love



## 3. Put On... Thanksgiving (Gratitude)

- understanding God.....
  - loves us & gave self up for our redemption
  - giver of all things – source and supplier
  - withholds no good thing from his children
  - understands and cares about your desires
  - created you in Christ – has a role for you
- Surrender of my
  - passions & perspectives



# Ephesians: Walk In Love



## 4. Do Not Be Deceived

- a) as is proper among the saints vs.3
  - God decides what is acceptable & proper
- b) these clothes – lifestyle choices
  - evident, matter, strong warning
- c) some will try to deceive you
  - clever arguments to allow what you desire in the old self
  - saying God's wrath against sin will not be revealed

# Ephesians: Walk In Love



## So What?

1. Review and Renew your Heart with God
  - beloved children
  - chose to walk, be imitators, respond in love
  - he can do this work in you
2. Decide to respond in Love
  - put away.....
  - put on....
3. Do not be Deceived