

Being Intoxicated by the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 5:15-6:9

Where do people today look to find wisdom?

- I. Be Careful (How you live)
 - Not Unwise, but wise (take advantage of your opportunity of choices.)
 - Not Foolish, but understand God's will.

V 18 – “Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

- Not Drunk, but drunk in the spirit - Allow the spirit to change your behavior.
- II. The Results of being Intoxicated in the spirit
 - a. Singing - Expresses the joy of being with the spirit. Directed to God and to each other.
 - b. Giving thanks to God for everything
 - c. Mutual submission (Verse 21)
 - III. Examples of Mutual Submission
 - House Codes
 - a. Husbands and Wives
 - b. Parents and children
 - c. Masters and slaves
 - IV. Mutual Submission (v21)
 - Historically, teachers and preachers tend to break up this section and therefore, lose the original context.
 - Verse 21 is the last example of the rewards of being “Drunk in the Spirit” and it is the opening verse in explaining Mutual Submission.
 - Those with Power within the culture (Husbands, Parents and Masters) are to submit to others.
 - Concern during Paul's Era: Would Christian freedom cause a rebellion?
 - Christian Wisdom as described by Paul was a radical departure from current culture.
 - V. A Misunderstood or Misapplied Verse (V22)
 - If you read verse 22 without first reading verse 21, you will not interpret correctly.
 - The Greek word for submit is not used in v22, it only refers to the word submit that is used in v21.

- The culture expected the wife to submit.
- Head of Household.
 - Responsibility to Love and Protect – Ex. Adams Rib – Equal Relationship, but under his arm to protect.
- The radical advise from Paul concerns the Husband to put his wife first. (That was not the cultural norm.)

Action Plan:

1. Allow the spirit to change your behaviors.
2. Be filled with Joy, Thankfulness and Mutually Submit to each other.
3. No matter your position in life, live a life of respect for other people.