

# THE WALK OF A CHRISTIAN

By Keith Greer

In the books of 1st, 2nd and 3rd John, we can read much about the "walk" of a Christian.

"And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, that, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it." (2 John 6) "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." (3 John 4)

In examining "walk", we can see that John uses the word in a figurative sense and thereby "signifying the whole round of activities of the individual life" (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words). Therefore, in the context, we can easily see the ideal of a "way of life".

From the very beginning of time, God has given man a direction to "walk in". When Adam and Eve were put in the garden of Eden, God told them exactly what they were to do. "And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou may freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it..." (Genesis 2: 16-17) This path was the only "path" that they could walk down, and it was simple to understand. Yet, they chose to disobey God.

The apostle Paul wrote to the Ephesians to have a "worthy walk". "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called." (Ephesians 4:1) Since we are all called by the gospel (Colossians 3:15), our "way of life" must be in accordance with this calling. If a Christian will walk worthy of his calling, then he must, of necessity, walk in the path of righteousness.

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk In newness of life." (Romans 6:4) Paul wrote to the Christians at Rome that those who were buried in Christ would arise to "walk in newness of life". As a new creature, we cannot walk down our "old paths" and still be pleasing to God. "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk In darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin." (1 John 1: 6-7)

How does one "walk" in a correct way as a Christian? One thing for sure we must be "led by the Spirit," Romans 8:14. Simply put, this means one must pattern their lives after the teaching in the Bible that was revealed by the Spirit. What kind of husband and wife should one be? Read Ephesians 5:22-33. How should one bring up children in this ungodly world? Read Ephesians 6:1-4; Colossians 3:21 and many of the Proverbs give good instruction in rearing children. What kind of life must I live to be pleasing to God? Read Titus 2:11-14; Romans 12:1,2 ; 1 Timothy 4:12. How can I grow in my faith and knowledge as a Christian? Read 2 Peter 1:5-11. Do you see the point? Every road we can walk down in this life God has left

instructions of what will make it profitable and most effective in our lives – and those who observe us.

Brethren, if we ever desire to have eternal fellowship with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ, we must be "walking" with Him on this earth! "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk, even as he walked." (1 John 2: 6) Each of us make the choices in our lives concerning the paths we choose to "walk" during the course of our lives. Remember, these decisions have eternal consequences attached to them. How are you "walking" today? \*\*\*