

WALKING WISE

EPH 5:15-21

SOPHIA/CHOKMAH



SUMMARY OF THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

WHAT HAS COME BEFORE

- DOCTRINE: OUR RICHES IN CHRIST ([Eph 1:3-3:21](#))
 - OUR SPIRITUAL POSSESSIONS IN CHRIST ([Eph 1:3-14](#))
 - OUR SPIRITUAL POSITION IN CHRIST ([Eph 2:1-22](#))
- DUTY: OUR RESPONSIBILITIES IN CHRIST ([Eph 4:1-6:20](#))
 - A CALL TO WALK IN UNITY ([Eph 4:1-16](#))
 - A CALL TO WALK IN PURITY ([Eph 4:17-5:21](#))

WHAT IS TO COME

- A CALL TO WALK IN HARMONY ([Eph 5:22-6:9](#))
- A CALL TO WALK IN VICTORY ([Eph 6:10-20](#))

FRAMING TRUTH (REALITY)

**Skills acquired
through learning
PROV 18:15/15:14**

1. DATA

- Facts
- Statistics
- datasets

**Things we assume are facts
PROV 14:12**



2. INFORMATION

- Analysis of past
- Interpretation of past

**Facts learned about
MATT 11:15**



3. KNOWLEDGE

- Lessons from past
- Near future application short to medium term)



4. IMAGINATION

- Unbridled visions of the future
- Creative and synthetic (skill and expert driven analysis)

**Forming new ideas
EPH 3:20**



5. INSIGHT

(Understanding) Unique combinations
Potential innovations

**Understanding JOB
28:28**



7. WISDOM

- Practical integrated application of insights
- Long term application of insight

Manifold Wisdom EPH 3:10

WHAT DO WE NEED TO KNOW (EPH 5:15-21)

The knowledge revealed in scripture is for transforming the world through practical and daily application i.e. walking wise.

- Redeeming (retaining, retrieving, reconstituting, reprogramming the days for they are evil) simply put buying the times or the age
 - by applying the word of God.
 - A lifestyle that reflects what we have received

WHY DO WE NEED TO KNOW THIS

1. Wisdom is how we understand God and how we live for Him.
2. It is a manifestation and reflection of revelation and lifestyle. What we think and do either reveals God or it doesn't
 - **JOB 28:28** – fear of God that is the beginning of wisdom
3. The reality of existing evil
 - Not simply about Satan and principalities
 - **JAMES 1:14** and **MATT 24:12** (outworking of evil desire and diminishing love translates to evil days)

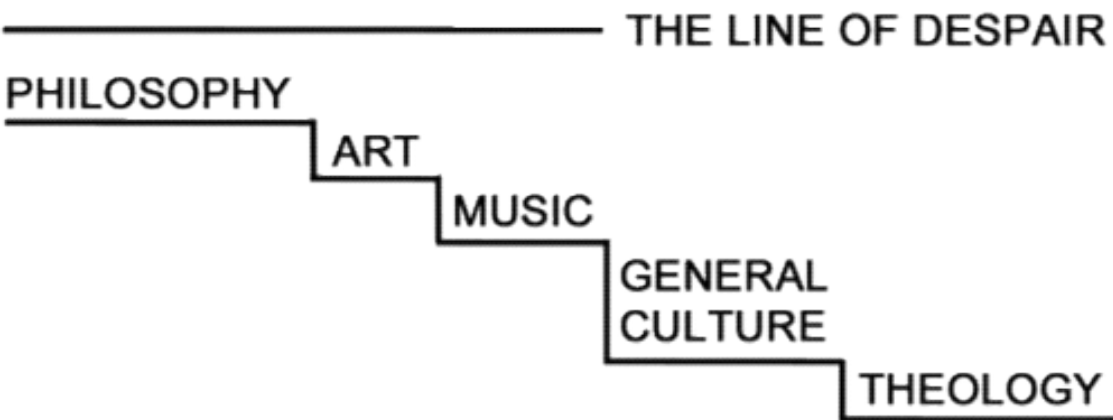
WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO

ISA 55:8-11 is not highlighting the difference between us and God as a fixed and unbridgeable gap

1. Rather **HIS WORD GOES OUT**
2. **It is like nourishing rain that gives seed to sower and bread to eater**
3. **Walking wise is about receiving and applying God's word daily**
4. Fulfil the word that has been spoken so it does not return void. **(TODAY WHEN YOU HEAR THE VOICE OF GOD HEB 4:7)**
5. **PAUL IS ASKING US TO LIVE AS PEOPLE WHO HAVE SOMETHING BETTER TO LIVE FOR.**

- WHY DO WE NEED TO DO THIS**
- REDEEMING THE TIME (EPH 5:16)**
1. Using every opportunity - doing good. (**1 Pet 2:15**)
 2. Living in the will of God. (**ROMANS 12:1-2**)
intelligent worship
 3. Living a full life of purpose and significance. (**ECC 12:13**) *the whole duty of man*
 4. Living to your full potential. (**2 COR 3:18**)
increasing glory.

EVIL DAYS



FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

The God who is there.

1. The world is in despair because of expressing our evil desire in our endeavours (**JAMES 1:14**)
2. Under the influence of the evil one. (**1 JOHN 5:19**)
3. Exchanged truth (**ROM 1:25**) and wisdom of God for what we think will make us wise (**GEN 3:6**)
4. Lust and greed are a result of a delusion (**EPH 4:22**) *ref Gen 3: 4-5*

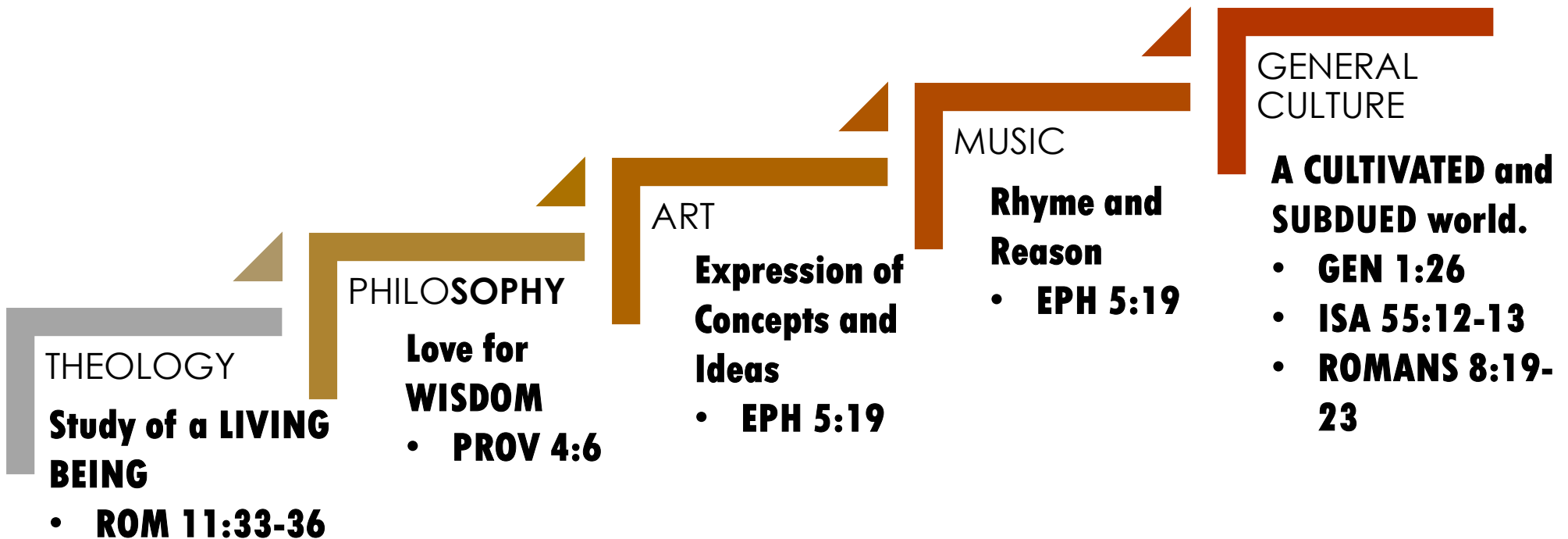
NOT AS FOOLS (UNWISE)

1. It is not talking about random acts of stupidity
2. Rather about living below your potential and capacity
 - Being wasteful
 - Choosing to play small for no specific reason
 - Not fully applying yourself (Like running a race to lose)
3. But the text is asking us to live as people who have something better to live for.
4. Walk like Jesus in Spirit and Truth (**JOHN 4:23-24**)

THE WILL OF GOD

1. Love your neighbour as you love yourself. **(MATT 22:39)**
2. Doing things in word and deed as unto the Lord. **(COL 3:17)**
3. Live as children of the light. **(EPH 5:8)**
4. The express reason for all that Christ has done is for men and women to walk the earth oozing Gospel Truth i.e. Jesus. **(2 COR 2:15) a Sweet fragrance**
 - A SPIRITUAL TRUTH assimilated as an IDEA manifesting as HUMAN ACTION.
 - **(ISAIAH 55:10-11)** the word spoken comes out of heaven and nourishes the earth i.e. God's wisdom and thoughts are given to men and women. Why? So that they counteract WICKEDNESS (Evil days) with GOOD and RIGHTEOUSNESS.

WILL OF GOD – STARTING WITH JESUS (JOB 28:28)



BEING FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

DRUNK WITH WINE

1. It is debauchery (Overindulgence)
2. Has the appearance of freedom but all sin is bondage.
3. Brings you short term pleasure and joy. **(Prov 23: 30-35)**
4. Is an externally driven experience.
5. It costs money every time.
6. Immobilizes and disempowers

FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

1. It is righteous
2. True freedom
3. Eternal pleasure and joy
4. It is an internally driven experience
5. It is free perpetually
6. Mobilizes and empowers

HOW TO REMEMBER

- WWJD reloaded (What Would Jesus Do)
 1. The Word of God is in you. You are the best hope for the world to encounter Jesus.
 2. You are God's Jesus agent on earth with an opportunity to accomplish His word in different contexts everyday.
 3. Everyday we have the opportunity to live and exist in the will of God.

- The text is asking us to live as people who have something better to live for
- Walk like Jesus
- Fulfil the word that has been spoken so it does not return void
- The express reason for all that Christ has done is for men and women to walk the earth oozing Gospel Truth i.e. Jesus.
 - A spiritual truth assimilated as an idea manifested as human action. Isaiah 55 reveals that the word spoken comes out of heaven and nourishes the earth i.e. god's wisdom and thoughts are given to men and women. Why so that they counter wickedness with good and righteousness.
- Walking with a fear and reverence of God

Questions for life groups

- Do you know the will of God for your life?
- How is the will of God outworked in daily activities?
- Why is it difficult to walk in wisdom in a fallen world?
- How does our view of God affect how we express him?
- What does being filled with the Holy Spirit mean to you?
- What steps can you take to apply God's word better?