

Ephesians - Commentaries by Paul J. Pascoe

CareLines: Volume 7, Singing (5:19)

Speaking to yourselves in . . . spiritual songs.

Ephesians 5:19

The third category of song is the "spiritual song," or "ode." This kind of song tells a story that may include elements of the first two kinds of songs we previously mentioned. One of the best known spiritual songs ever written is Amazing Grace by John Newton of the seventeenth century. This beautiful ode tells the history of Newton from the time he was lost to the future scene in heaven where we shall join him to sing to our Saviour for eternity.

CareLines: Volume 7, Singing (5:19)

Speaking to yourselves in . . . hymns.

Ephesians 5:19

A hymn is a more fully developed communication toward God. It comes from the word "hymnos," which denotes a song of praise addressed to God. This is perhaps the highest form of singing for the Christian, as the words of many hymns seek to draw the believer into the presence of God. A short but very good example of a hymn is the following: "Lord Jesus, we worship and bow at Thy feet,

And give Thee the glory, the honor that's meet; While through Thee, O Saviour, our praises ascend, And join in the chorus that never shall end.

CareLines: Volume 7, Singing (5:19)

Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:19

Christians sing three kinds of songs - psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. They are all three different and for a divine reason. A psalm is a song that expresses the heart, the soul, the emotions and the experiences of the believer. It might be one of the psalms David wrote, but there are also many "psalms" that have been written by Christians in the last 2000 years. The following popular chorus could be an example of a modern psalm:

CareLines: Volume 3, No Fellowship (5:11)

OCTOBER 31

But have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

Ephesians 5:11

I am not a big, strong or intimidating person, yet I once worked with a fellow who said that he was afraid of me. Actually his conscience was afraid because he knew that I disapproved of him living with his girlfriend. And when he was around me he got nervous. We are witnesses for the Lord by the things we allow in our lives and by those with whom we do or do not associate. As a Christian I am not to approve of the corruptness that is in the world but by my quiet testimony to speak out against it.

CareLines: Volume 3, Evil (5:11)

APRIL 17

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

Ephesians 5:11

We as Christians may sometimes be content to make excuses for not participating in evil. It is well that we have no fellowship with the evil; however, God would have us know that we also have a responsibility to remind others of the wrongness of their deeds. "Open rebuke is better than secret love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend." Proverbs 27:5,6.

CareLines: Volume 2, Service: EPH 5:16 (5:16)

EPH 5:16

Redeeming the time.

Eph. 5:16

This really means "seizing your opportunities". Have you grabbed hold of every opportunity you could today to say something good about the Lord Jesus Christ, and to please Him?

CareLines: Volume 3, Lust (4:22)

APRIL 28

Put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts.

Ephesians 4:22

We are told to put out of our lives deceitful lusts. In Hebrews 3:13 we are warned of the "deceitfulness of sin". In Mark 4:17, we read of the deceitfulness of riches. The deceitfulness of these things is that they promise happiness but deliver sorrow. Beware of lusts; they will try to push the true source of joy out of your life. If you let them fool you, you will be miserable.

CareLines: Volume 2, Lying: 3 (4:25)

EPH 4:25

Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth . . . for we are members one of another.

Eph. 4:25

The word used for lying here literally means "falsehood, the practice of lying." It is a terribly sad thing when believers are habitual liars. In this verse, the motive for not lying is that we are members of the same body. When we lie to other Christians it is like lying to ourselves. Have nothing to do with this awful practice. If you have a problem with it, pray earnestly to the Lord that He will help you overcome.

CareLines: Volume 2, Not Walking (4:17)

EPH 4:17

Walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind.

Eph. 4:17

Here is the contrast with those who do not know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior. We are not to pattern our lives after them, but after Christ. What a challenge - and we need to face that challenge daily.

CareLines: Volume 2, Walking (4:1)

EPH 4:1

Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.

Eph. 4:1

Our vocation is our work or occupation, and we are told to live and walk in a way that is suitable for someone in that job. Our job on earth is to love, please, obey, and serve the Lord Jesus. Are we walking worthy of that vocation?

CareLines: Volume 2, No Hope or Hope? (2:12)

EPH 2:12

Without Christ . . . having no hope, and without God in the world.

Eph. 2:12

Anatoly and Gourgen made their first parachute jumps at an air club. Anatoly's first nearly became his last, as his main chute failed to open. A man in his group had declared that if this happened, nothing could help. Anatoly hurtled toward earth, thinking his life was about to end as people yelled and motioned frantically for him to pull the emergency chute. Finally, he yanked on a cord. It opened the chute, and he landed safely. "But now in Christ Jesus ye . . . are made nigh by the blood of Christ." Eph. 2:13. Jesus is your ONLY hope for salvation. Trust Him!

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