Sermon Notes

Themes from Ephesians

"Walk Worthy" - Ephesians 4:1-3

I. Introduction

- A. Paul's typical writing structure.
 - 1. Doctrine then practical concerns.
 - a. Examples: Romans 1-11; 12:1-2 Ephesians 1-3; 4:1-3
- B. Paul's crucial concept
 - 1. Doctrinal input must be matched by practical output.

II. Exposition

- A. Verse 1.
 - 1. "Prisoner of the Lord"
 - a. Personal reference.
 - b. John MacArthur
 - 2. "Walk"
 - a. Daily conduct
 - 3. "Worthy"
 - a. To have worth equal to one's position.
 - 1. I Tim. 5:17-18; Luke 10:6-7
 - b. D. Martin Lloyd Jones
 - 1. Note the balance between doctrine and practice
 - 2. Two traps for Christians

- c. James Boice
- 4. "Calling"
 - a. Note the difference between vocation and calling.
 - 1. Ekklesia translated as "church" literally means "called out."

- 2. I Thess. 2:12; John 6:44; Eph. 1:4
- b. Two parts to our calling.
 - 1. Called out of darkness into light.
 - 2. Called from death to life.

B. Verses 2-3

- 1. Outline of remainder of book
 - a. Unity among believers; 4:4-16
 - b. The godly life; 4:17 6:24
- 2. Characteristics of a worthy life
 - a. Humility, vs. 2.
 - 1. Philippians 2:3
 - 2. Watchman Nee
 - b. Gentleness, vs. 2.
 - 1. Meekness should not be viewed as weakness.
 - c. Patience, vs. 2.
 - 1. Accomplished mostly through suffering.
 - a. Romans 5:3; Hebrews 5:8
 - d. Love, vs. 2
 - 1. Do not quit on relationships.
 - e. Unity of the Spirit, vs. 3
 - 1. John 17:11, 21-23

III. Points for Reflection

- A. We have a high calling of honor, and it should not be viewed as a burden.
- B. Walking worthy means that our conduct must match our Biblical content.
- C. Humility means preferring someone over yourself.
- D. Patience is a virtue of the believer which we should all desire, but it comes about through long-suffering.
- E. All of this achieves Unity of the Spirit.