WISE WALKING: By: Dr. Hal Webb, Evangelist.

"Walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you."

Jer. 7:23

Walking is very much in style these days for our health. Walkathons raise millions for their projects and many cannot resist walking for a cause that interests them. In this sermon I want you to notice the great many verses in which God encourages proper spiritual walking. There are actually sixteen and I hope I can get them all listed. We are first told to Walk In Light. In I John 1:7 we are told "If we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." By directing your steps you can walk among God's beloved, side by side with the one who has forgiven all our sin. What a precious truth this is. Why would we want to turn our steps anywhere else? Walking in the center of His will has to be the very best place to be. We are next told to Walk In **Truth**. III John 4 says "I have no greater joy than to hear my children walk in truth." Our world today is filled with paths of error but we need not walk in them. Be aware of the trickery around you and be not fooled by the devil and his crowd of deceivers. The only real truth is that which is contained in the Bible and all else contrary to the Bible has to be error. We are also reminded we Walk Before God. Genesis 17:1 states "I am the Almighty God, walk before me, and be thou perfect." To be a success, remember who He is and why you should seek to please Him. He sees your every move and watches the course you choose from day to day. Only fools would walk the way that brings tragedy instead of perfection. We are also commanded to Walk in Gods Law. "Then said the Lord unto Moses, Behold I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the

people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no" Exodus 16:4. The Lord then and now keeps check on what we do with the provisions and opportunities He gives us. They must not be wasted but invested in the challenges of our daily journey. We also must Walk In Wisdom. Col. 4:5 "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time." We need not struggle with man made thinking when His wisdom is freely offered. Mistakes can be avoided when we seek his direction and will. I often tell folks, "God and I are a majority"! If we lack wisdom many verses urge us to ask of the Lord. He is more willing to lead than we are to be led. Prov. 2:7 goes on to tell us to Walk Uprightly. "He is a buckler to them that walk uprightly." Don't slouch and walk with defeat and despair but stand tall and be a positive evidence of the glories of being a child of God. Never forget we are children of the King and royal blood has purchased us. Walk above the ridicule of the world and point the way to glory. We are almost half way through the Walks and another is to Walk Honestly. I Thess. 4:2 honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing." In a world that lies and operates in dishonesty we are to be an example in truth. Our neighbors need to see our honesty and trust us living next door to them. Your school teacher needs to see you can be trusted to do your very best. Your kids must see their parents are different in all the dealings of the neighborhood. We are further told to Walk In Love. "Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called. With all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love" Eph. 4: 1&2. Most of the world has been taken over with lust and true love can greatly enhance your witness. We are surrounded by a multitude of unloved men and women. Most of their friends do not love them in this dog eat dog generation. True love for others is a great opener to witness for Christ.

We are then told to Walk In The Spirit. "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh" Gal. 5:16. His presence within us helps us to respond as He would have us to our daily journey. Sure there are problems galore but He is within us so we can triumph. I like the next one, Walk Circumspectly. Eph. 5:15 says "See that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise." We are not to blunder through the muck and mire Satan puts before us but circle around the mud puddle traps he arranges. Stop and pray and think and God will show you the path around evil every day. Don't get so busy that you don't stop and consider the danger of careless living. Watch for habits you can change and places to avoid. Turn the dial, click the remote; turn your eyes to better things rather than sit there in the slop. I remember the story of the drunkard who always parked his car at the curb in front of the tavern. In a revival meeting he was won to Christ and entered the new life. However he fell back into drinking and wondered why? The pastor pointed out the problem by saying, "Change the place where you park your car." The power of repetition is a strong one and perhaps you need a change from the usual. I further am challenged with Walk Worthy. Col. 3:10 challenges us to "walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." I realize we should not boast in our possessions or revel in our achievements but humbly realize without God we are nothing. Stop the whine and invest in the time given you as a child of God. Wow! Did you ever realize how many Bible verses told us how to walk. How about Walk By Faith. "For we walk by faith, not by sight" II Cor. 5:7. As I write these words the news is full of doom and gloom. My pet peeve is slick beautiful news babes that with smiles of glee predict the next tragedy that awaits us. Don't get worn down by these drive by media types but remember God is not sitting above engrossed in worry at the

sin caused stupidity of this world. He is worthy and we too, as we rely on His provision and grace. We are further to Walk In Newness. Rom. 6:4 says "We are buried with Him by baptism unto death; that like as Christ was raised up by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Through faith in Christ we are in Him, raised and blessed with our relationship forever. How wonderful to be in Christ, redeemed by His blood and fully accepted in the heavens as faith blooms into reality in glory. We are further told to Walk In His Paths. "He will teach us of His ways and we will walk in His paths" Isa. 2:3. Through out the Old Testament the people followed the path of God and were led through the wilderness where they had never been before. We believers today, are still on a journey and the God of creation knows best how to lead us. His will and direction is far better than our weak stumble through the jungle of today's challenges. We are to Walk In The Way Of Good Men. "That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous" Prov. 2:20. It is very clear that good men and women through the years have chosen to walk in the way that pleases God. We who are righteous are to leave different foot prints than that which is left by the stumbling multitudes of lost humanity. From birth to death man has a choice to make. Our world in the day of Adam and Eve fell under the curse of sin. Since then all have been guilty of sin and have suffered in it's consequences. Without a personal faith in Jesus Christ, which brings the new birth experience, things are hopeless. The path of Christ rejecting men is one of hopelessness and all sinners will stand before the judgment throne of God. With our faith in Christ alone we believers can walk in victory day by day in His directed footsteps. Watch Your Step!